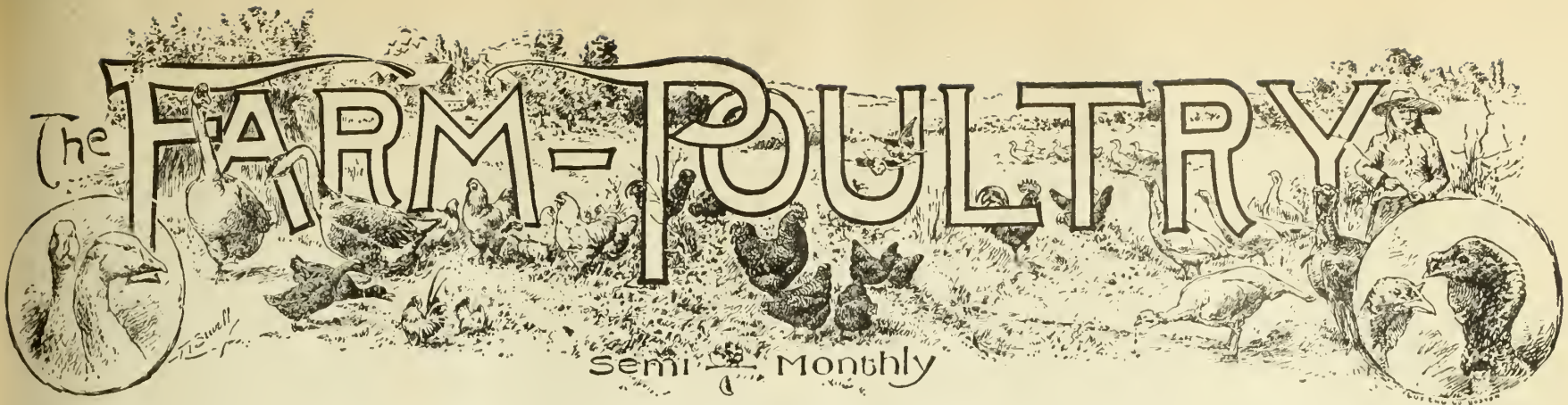


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THE GREAT EGG TRUST.

Scheme to Control the Egg Market in New York and Philadelphia.

I have before me one of many copies of the prospectus of "The Monmouth Guaranteed Egg Co.," sent me by different readers of F.P., each copy accompanied with a request for criticism on the merits of the plan.

The Monmouth Guaranteed Egg Co., with offices at 16 Broad St., New York, is incorporated under the laws of New Jersey with a capital stock of \$1,000,000, divided into 50,000 shares of preferred and 150,000 shares of common stock. It has acquired a tract of 350 acres of land at Manasquan, N. J., where it is proposed to establish the largest poultry plant in the world, a plant having a capacity of 150,000 laying hens, whose annual output is to be 2,125,000 dozen eggs per year, 150,000 broilers and 150,000 old hens, with an estimated profit of \$293,971 per year.

The prospectus is issued for the information of possible purchasers of stock. It introduces itself to such as "an investment worth considering." It is affirmed that the venture is not speculative, that the profit is always certain, that there are no risks, etc., etc. Having explained all this fully it goes on to say:

"You will naturally ask: Why then, since the risk is practically none at all and profits so very large for a legitimate business, has capital not combined to monopolize these wondrous benefits before now?

"The answer is simple and convincing.

"Until artificial incubation was perfected the waste in production would cut down the output to a figure making even a large chicken farm not more profitable than any other ordinary business.

"Secondly, in the absence of a system of prompt delivery including immediate gathering, as our Benson system does, the Cold Storage had to be utilized and the profits from its use being satisfying to the capitalists they did not cast about for better methods.

"And—it is only now that the Benson system of chicken ranching and egg producing is perfected. We are the sole owners of the patented system and the appliances are as simple as any of the great million making patents.

"Secure in the unassailability of our appliances (patents pending), and equally safe in the immediate profitable and productive start of our business and also secure of our chosen market, we here set forth unreservedly what the Benson system is."

The first feature of the "Benson system" is the division of the fowls into "colonies of not above thirty hens, each of which colonies has its own reservation and is kept separate and isolated at all times from the others." As every one knows, the division into colonies or small flocks is a very old and very common idea in poultry culture. The feature of the Benson system of colonizing is that each enclosed yard is entirely isolated from the others by "streets" ten feet wide. The plan provides for eight such colonies on an acre of ground. It puzzles me a little to see how under this plan 150,000 hens are to be kept on a 350 acre farm. I never studied "trust arithmetic," and by common arithmetic I can only figure 84,000 hens on the 350 acres. This leaves no room whatever for anything but the 84,000 hens and supposes that every yard of

the 350 acres can be utilized. Another puzzling thing is that in "FINANCIAL SHEET B. Total cost of plants," I find this item, "Building chicken houses, wire runs, etc., for 150,000 chickens \$120,000," and further on this, "Benson's patent devices for 1,200 chicken houses complete \$30,000." Combining these statements I, naturally, infer that the purpose is to house the 150,000 head of laying stock in 1,200 houses which with runs are to cost \$100 each. Now as we have already been told that not over thirty fowls are to be kept in one colony, the greatest capacity I can reckon for 1,200 houses is 36,000 hens. The 84,000 hens which could be placed on 350 acres by the "Benson system" would require 2,800 houses. For 150,000 hens 5,000 houses would be required, and the 3,800 additional houses alone would add \$380,000 to the cost of the plant, which according to schedule is \$266,800. Is it necessary to say anything more about the cost of the plant? There are other items which might be criticised, but what's the use of piling it up?

The average yearly egg yield of each hen is to be 200 eggs, but in order to be on the safe side calculations of the egg product are based on an average of only 170 eggs a year, "which is ten below the ordinary average of all hens in the United States, fed and underfed." I don't feel like censuring the promoters of the egg trust for such misstatements as that; the persons who are really to blame are the poultrymen, especially the poultry writers and editors who have been exploiting a few rare and not too well authenticated instances of extraordinary laying as reliable examples of ordinary good laying. In general these men are not practical poultrymen, and are in a measure excusable for their ignorance, but some certainly knew better.

One of the patents included in the "Benson System" is an automatic nest, the object of which is to prevent the egg from being affected with "the taint of incubation," produced by eggs remaining in the nest while several hens lay. The device is simply the old, old idea of a false bottom with a hole in it, sometimes used in nests for egg eating hens. It is solemnly affirmed that the "taint of incubation" is "the main cause why so many eggs spoil." To some extent this is true. The trouble is not found, however, when eggs are gathered daily and kept in a suitable place and temperature. The theory which requires that the egg intended for the table must not be exposed to the heat of a hen's body even for an instant after being extruded, to be consistent with itself must affirm that the egg must not be retained in the egg passage for a moment after it has been completely developed; for as is well known incubation may proceed in an egg retained too long. I would suggest that to round out the "Benson system," an X-ray

apparatus be used to determine when the egg should be extruded, and machine devised to secure prompt extrusion.

The "Benson Electric Food Scatterer" is to save "the expense of numerous attendants, and the lives of smaller hens." As the hens are to be all small (estimated average weight of each three pounds) I fail to see the need of an appliance to protect the smaller ones from the larger. As every one who has had any experience in feeding knows, the feeding of a large number of different lots of fowls by machinery is not apt to prove a success. An electric feeding device such as is pictured in this prospectus should be a useful article and

JOHN R. BENSON, who has been engaged as our General Manager."

Mr. Benson may be an expert in poultry culture, but, if correctly reported in the *New York Herald*, he does not talk like one. Witness this extract:

"Few people know that the insignificant little hen is one of the greatest profit makers and wealth producers. The revenue from keeping fowls for eggs if the herds can be properly handled, watched and controlled is greater than in any other industry," said Mr. J. R. Benson.

"Becoming convinced years ago that there was big profit and room for great improve-



WHITE FACED BLACK SPANISH.

ment in poultry raising, I started experiments and study, not in methods of breeding, but to devise proper methods of herding. I found that it is possible on a small area to keep an unlimited number of small herds. This system caused the greatest production. Two hundred eggs per year per fowl was not a high average, and each hen could be made to pay a profit of at least \$2.50 per year. I started with fifteen hens, then increased this to ten families of fifteen each. The result was the same, if not better."

Think of it: an expert poultryman who talks about "herds" and "herding" fowls, and

might sell well to poultry keepers who cannot personally attend to their hens three times a day, but I don't think anyone would successfully use such an apparatus who did not himself feed the hens once a day at least.

Another "improvement" is a patented perch which prevents lice from going to the fowls on the roosts at night. This device also has been on the market for years and is listed by all large dealers in poultry supplies.

"The rest of the Benson system is a matter of scientific feeding, which has been fully and perfectly tested by the long experience of Mr.

who found it possible to keep an "unlimited number of fowls on a small area," and whose experience goes no further than 150 hens, while his prospectus talks about 150,000!

But to me the point of greatest importance in connection with this scheme is that if all writers on poultry topics would endeavor to state the truth only about results in and profits from poultry, such schemes as this could not have a leg to stand on. For myself, I could not, even were I so disposed, accense the promoters of this would-be monopoly of intent to defraud and deceive the public. Given the present tendency to create coporations for monopolistic purposes, and such ventures are the legitimate fruits of the persistent exaggeration as to actual and wild speculation, as to possible profits from poultry which have for years been a standing disgrace to poultry literature.

A JUDGE'S IDEAS.

The Decimal System in Poultry Culture.

As a prelude to my subject I wish, as a member of the American Poultry Association, to assert that the society was founded upon the principle of score card application of Standard law. It was hoped that by a fixed law known as the Standard descriptions of the several breeds, and by the measurements of the merits of individual specimens of the breeds as compared by that perfect law, we might determine by score card valuations the comparative merit of the specimens,—the Standard law to be the ideal of the judge. The need of this had grown out of the fact that by open judging with no demand of law behind the judge we, as exhibitors, became subject to the will and ideals of the different judges, and uniformity of judging was not secured. There was no protection for either society, judge or exhibitor. The judge was open to criticism from any exhibitor who differed from him in ideals, and altercations were so common in our exhibitions that it was seen that, to make them beneficial to poultry culture there must be a common, standard ideal and tabulated records of the defects found in the specimens judged.

But as an association we fell into the error of making score cards for every breed. The values of like sections in different breeds varied. We hope to show in this paper that this was an error, and that strict justice can be secured in no other way than by applying all standards by one specific rule that must apply to all breeds alike.

There has crept into the discussion of this question an erroneous idea that the decimal system is detrimental to the interests of the American Poultry Association. If my readers will only go back to the preamble issued when the idea of a National Decimal Association was introduced, they will see that it was offered as an auxiliary to the American Poultry Association which controlled them as it controls now the Standard of Perfection.

There is no disposition among the intelligent members of that old association to make these Standards other than the best possible descriptions of the breeds; for they understand full well that unless their work secures the endorsement of a very large majority of the breeders it will fail as a law for the breeds. We understand also that to do this work well is all there is of vital force and life for the American Poultry Association as it now stands.

In its conception the work of making the Standard had not a thought beyond the control of awards in poultry exhibitions. But the breeders soon found that its influence was far reaching,—that it not only secured fair awards to the ten or fifteen per cent of the fowls that were exhibited, but that the first class breeding birds sold for breeding purposes were very much enhanced in value by its influence; for the score card valuations showing these to be of near the same merit as the winners in points secured for them a corresponding price; while on the other hand the old plan of open judging with no standard law of merit gave to the winning specimens a fictitious value, leaving the remainder to be sold at a nominal price, and we saw breeders selling the yearly product at one stated price, and that a nominal one.

The influence of comparison judging today is only history repeating itself. The same influence is at work; judges ignoring the Standard, judges criticised in these comparison exhibitions, and the specimens not winning dropping to a nominal price. I hope to show by my presentation of the "Decimal System" that it is not detrimental to the American Poultry Association's interests, and that, on the other hand, it is a help to that body, a surer means of upholding its principles, and a greater help and support to poultry culture in America than any other system yet offered, and that it secures to the largest number the greatest possible amount of good. Our political friends tell us that personal effort or influence avails but little unless we organize into parties to present our views, but they reserve the right to make the platform and dictate the questions to be discussed, and this political right we shall enjoy.

I acknowledge the power of organization, but in poultry culture an organization to have national control should be by the breeders for the breeders—for their general good; not an association of breeders to benefit the bosses. Do not mistake my position as criticising special clubs to build up special breeds (for they deserve our praise), yet the spur to action may be, and in fact sometimes is a selfish desire for gain. When any organization ignores its standards or its constitution by illegal legislation, or forgets in its legislation the interests of its absent members, such acts always have a disintegrating effect, and weaken the interests they pretend to protect.

While special clubs can and should be helps to national associations, we cannot say that they have always proved such. But we believe poultry culture will prosper best with a national system that will be universal in its control of our associations, fraternal in its relations in giving its members the widest possible range of acquaintance, the greatest possible protection, and thereby a better guaranty of fair dealing for its members.

The question naturally follows:—How shall we form a national association that shall so control all the varied interests of poultry culture that its legislation shall emanate purely from the popular expression of the will of the breeders at large? For heretofore all our associations have been controlled by the few whose purse and zeal made it possible for them to meet where the laws which so far have governed the breeders were made. We believe that that society, or system, which can stand alone and maintain the present volume of thoroughbred trade in the country can by its effort, combined with the exhibition influence in the land, increase it fourfold.

It is not necessary that the ownership of the Standard be molested. For so long as the Standard of Perfection shall be worthy of its name, being a perfect description of the breeds; and it is allowed to stand as staple and fixed law, so far as its influence goes in shaping the breeds in the hands of the breeders, nothing can be gained by a change of ownership. But the breeders are growing each year more sensitive to changes in the Standard. They find it a hard task to build up a breed to score 92 or more points in a standard of 100, and that it takes years to bring a breed to a state of breeding that will enable them to turn out 62 to 75 per cent of chickens that can be called strictly first class by such Standard. Therefore does it behoove the American Association to see that its Standard is just and stable; or we shall have the chagrin of seeing the breeders of the land irrespective of associations or club fealty, called into convention and making a standard by which they will consent to be governed, and under which alone they will show their birds.

But this is not half the battle. What we need is a uniform rule to govern the awards at our exhibitions in a manner to raise the merit and price of the best half of each year's production to higher average price than now exists. Organized action has the effect of raising the tone and demands in all business in a general way, the reflex action of which comes back for the greater good of the greater number of individuals engaged therein, and in larger benefit for the product itself.

The old adage, "Two heads are better than one," may, in these times of specialty clubs, be construed to mean that, by consent of action, the present American Poultry Association

may by their help and support be the means of far greater good in the future than in the past. But to do this, all jealousy between these organizations must cease.

It does not take a prophet to see that the standing of the association must depend upon the attitude of a majority of the breeders toward it, and that all its legislation must have their sanction or it will become obsolete and be ignored. And the breeders are looking about for means to establish control of the exhibition management in a uniform way throughout the entire country, that winnings in one section may be accepted as a guaranty of merit in any other section also.

Now that the American Poultry Association has sanctioned the use of any system of applying its Standard, leaving it to the exhibition management to choose which shall be used, the decimal system comes into a fair field and asks no favors. If it cannot demonstrate its superiority to other systems, then it will become obsolete; the same as many breeds once acknowledged by our Standard have become obsolete, and as *symmetry* has gone out of use, for intelligent men have seen it was only a result being perfect when all sections were perfect in shape. It was a result, not an *active* principle which determined anything, and was thus forced into use only as shape; and when it was found that shape was fully punished in the section where the defect was found, to cut again for general shape became a punishment for being punished elsewhere. Breeders and exhibitors have known this for years, but the section has been kept standing simply by a train of circumstances over which the majority of the breeders have had no control.

When the American Poultry Association abandoned its score card it lost direct control of the breeders and became simply a publishing house of the Standard, and experience has taught that the Standard is controlled by a very small minority, the few that meet in our yearly meetings. That there must be better protection is evident to all who are thinking upon this subject.

To my mind "referendum" is the only means whereby the majority can in future control the constitution, by-laws and Standard. There should be incorporated in our constitution an article like this:—

All legislation effecting a change in the constitution, by-laws, or Standard, shall be referred to the entire membership in printed form, upon which they shall by a vote by mail support or reject said alteration; a two-thirds vote of the entire membership to be required to ratify such legislation or alteration.

An article to this effect would cause those present at a meeting to consider well that their legislation should be such as would protect the interests of all and give permanency to the Standard.

With a fixed Standard, the work of the association would be to provide some mode or organization, of rules that should govern all exhibitions, and secure the application of the Standard everywhere and at all times in exactly the same way. Then should we see greater uniformity in our exhibitions and awards by the different judges, and to secure this we present

The Decimal System

and universal use of the Decimal Score Card to apply the American Standard of Perfection as the best for the following reasons:—

First.—The system declares that each and every section should be valued alike, and the whole valuation be made up into ten sections each valued at ten points.

Our Standard is simply an arithmetical law of discounts, which *scales* the specimens down from perfection. In these problems the defect we find becomes the rate per cent to be discounted. This makes it absolutely necessary that the value of each section and in each breed shall be the same. The plea raised by some breeders, that sections should have different values in different breeds is untenable. In the following you have a sharp object lesson to negative such a belief.

In the Standard of 1886 we had (because of this belief) "back" valued, to wit: in Brahmas 6 points, Cochins 10, Games 5, Hamburgs 8, Plymouth Rocks 6, Wyandottes 8, Leghorns 7, Le Fleche 9. Suppose we find specimens in all these breeds equally faulty. You would

admit all should be cut alike. The judge fixes the defect at ten per cent and proceeds to punish to that extent. Then we have the Brahma cut six-tenths of a point, Cochin one point, Rock six-tenths of a point, Wyandottes four-fifths of a point, Leghorn seven-tenths of a point, Le Fleche nine-tenths of a point:—only two being cut alike. Had they been declared fifteen per cent at fault, we should have found one breed cut one and a half points, while the Games would have been cut only three-fourths of a point. Did such application of the Standard secure protection to all alike in competing for a sweepstake prize? The Decimal System, each section being valued at ten points, would have cut all alike, one point.

This should sufficiently answer why we make all sections alike and all breeds alike, using the one card to apply the Standard to all breeds.

But we will consider the question a little further. Even our exquisitely penciled specimens may be absolutely perfect in all else but shanks and feet, and by weakness in them unable to stand. Where, then, is their worth as exhibition specimens? Was not that section as essential and beholden for perfection in the whole as any one other? Then surely it should have an equal value and when equally faulty be cut in the same proportion. We cannot mix rules and secure justice. Per cent and the multiples of the decimal law must prevail all the way through, for it becomes the cents, dimes and dollars of our poultry finance.

It has been hard to make breeders understand that a section overvalued militated against the specimen and section thus valued.

The *Faddist* has demanded a high valuation for his *Fad*. Suppose we, being partial to a beautiful neck, demand that its value shall be fifteen points. This is all very nice for a specimen that is perfect; but how about the ninety-nine others of the flock that are not? You have established an exceeding high rate of discount for them, and you have secured a fifty per cent greater cut for them for the same defect than would be inflicted by the uniform rule of the decimal system, that gives each section ten points. The decimal system protects the breeder, and I hope by this presentation and its universal use by our show managements to show it the best medium by which to apply the Standard, and by its other considerations the best protection for the show managements themselves.

While the decimal system protects the breeder, it is far more necessary to the judge. He cannot work by a system that is not strictly fair to all, and follow it to the letter, and not himself suffer criticism as not being just in his awards.

But many a man today acting as judge will pretend that sections hard to produce should have the greater value in the score card. That is a question of making up the ten sections; not of the use of it after being formulated. We must adhere to the whole of a system, not make a fractional part the paramount and active portion of it. When a judge is in perfect harmony with the system he works under, there is no friction; his judgment works like well oiled machinery and is lightning-like in its conclusions. The first duty is to master the system we are to work by. The second demand of the system is that each and all societies holding exhibitions under its rules shall require specimens to win a first prize to score 90 as fowls and 92 as chickens. That to win a second they shall not score less than 88 as fowls and 90 as chicks, and that these two prizes shall represent the cash and property offered, that all third prize specimens shall score 87 or more for any age or sex,—this is Standard; that specimens scoring 86 or less shall not be considered as worth a score card record and such cards to be withheld,—but may be delivered to the owners for educational purposes by stamping in ink across the face of the card the word, "obsolete."

It will be seen that three prizes are compulsory from Standard demand like the foregoing. But to abandon the old rule of five prizes, to protect merit in large classes, a supplemental system becomes necessary. Judges cannot give scores below fair excellence, for it injures the industry they were bound to serve, and reacts upon the judge by creating doubt and distrust of his judgment as

to what is of exhibition or breeding excellence.

To fill this demand beyond the three compulsory prizes *Rewards of Merit* shall be issued to all specimens that score within one point of the money, provided they shall not score less than 90 points for fowls and 92 points for chicks.

With the above prizes counting for first three points; seconds, two points; and V. H. C. and merit cards each one point, we can protect the merit found in classes having a large number of entries, and prevent small classes of poor specimens (as is often the case) winning over them. The evil of five prizes all being compulsory, without a supplemental system, and upon which heretofore we have determined the collection prizes, has failed to protect honest merit, because a class of twenty birds of very poor quality has had a chance to win just as many points as a class of three hundred—i. e., 60 points, by the old rule in comparison exhibitions. You must see that when the compulsory demand stops with the three imperative prizes of the Standard, it is all any breed can honestly claim of recognition unless it can show extraordinary merit, and this extraordinary merit will be determined by these merit awards, which show up the number of specimens in the class eligible to win a first prize, by the demands of

prizes were given: 1st, 2d, V. H. C. Reserved, V. H. C., H. C., and C.; six prizes each to cocks, cockerels, hens and pullets, and the same to exhibition pen,—thirty prizes to a breed, no matter what its real or comparative merit. Now if each breed had an equal number in the same class for age there will be no difference in the score for a sweepstakes prize, by reckoning a first prize at five points, second at four, V. H. C. at three, H. C. at two, and C. at one; and the chances to win depend largely upon the even division as to age and sex.

What was the actual result in this show where judges gave extra complimentary prizes by padding the class with H. C.s and C.s? I have said the two large classes, Light Brahmas and Buff Cochins, were conceded to be the best ever shown. I now ask, are they not more completely bred than any of the part-colored or Wyandotte breeds? But here is what resulted by the system:

190 Brown Leghorns secured first position with 114 points.

152 Plymouth Rocks secured second position with 109 points.

73 White Wyandottes secured third position with 89 points.

43 Laced Wyandottes secured fourth position with 83 points.

88 Buff Cochins tied with 33 Buff Wyandottes

if they have other merit than found in the three winners?

Now this open judging, you see, must of necessity go more by favor, for there is no definite rule to govern the complimentary prizes as found in the H. C. and C. There is no law definite and binding upon the judge as to his action; consequently he is open to the criticism of every man whose judgment differs from his. On the other hand, by this decimal score card system, the specimens scoring 90 for fowls and 92 for chicks, if they score within one point of the money (that being 1st and 2d in the class) you are obliged to give the merit cards, and the judge acting under the system is lifted above the criticism from which by the open judging system he suffers. The system becomes the safeguard of judge, breeder, and exhibition management alike. All these questions affect you who are to act as judges in the future.

A third demand of the decimal system is that a collection for a breed shall consist of one cock, one cockerel, one hen, one pullet, and one pen of a male and four females, that may be of any age, not disqualified, for disqualified specimens do not count.

That a "Grand Collection" shall consist of three complete breed collections, being twenty-seven or more birds, and comprising, as one sees, of both ages, and breeding pens to be

"Put Money In Thy Purse."

Nobody suffering from brain-fag, lack of energy, or "that tired feeling" ever puts money in his purse. Lassitude and listlessness come from impure, sluggish blood that simply oozes through the veins. Hood's Sarsaparilla makes the blood pure and gives it life, vigor and vim.

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Never Disappoints

BRED TO LAY. WHITE WYANDOTTES.

Bred for eggs by the individual record system. Brown eggs from pedigreed layers \$2 per 15; \$5 per 50; \$10 per 100.
BRICAUT POULTRY FARM,
Lawrence, Mass.

BREEDERS For Sale.

A few of my White Indian Game, White Wyandotte and Light Brahma bantam breeders for sale. If you want something good at a reasonable price, write stating just what you want. Orr's Clear Grit always the best.
THE ELLIOT FARM,
D. LINCOLN ORR, Box 1, Orr's Mills, N. Y.

LEG WEAKNESS
permanently cured in young and old fowls with **BANNER LEG WEAKNESS PILLS**. Never known to fail. 25c. per box postpaid. Our immense 1900 Illustrated Catalogue FREE.
Excelsior Wire & Poultry Supply Co.,
28 Vesey St., New York City.
When writing kindly mention Farm-Poultry.

213-Egg Strain W. WYANDOTTES.

Prize Winners and Heavy Layers Combined.

To make room for my chicks I will now sell some of my breeding females, last year's pullets. Do not miss this chance to get some fine birds.
F. P. PULSIFER, Natick, Mass.

1868 1900 NETTLETON'S LT. BRAHMAS,

On 5 entries at Philadelphia won 5 single premiums, and special for best male Lt. Brahma in show, 39 birds competing. All my birds were of my own breeding. A few magnificent cockerels and pullets very large and fine, at a fair price for quality. For balance of season eggs, \$1 per 15. C. P. NETTLETON,
Veteran Breeder, Shelton, Conn.

Do You Want Layers?

We have pullets hatched in Aug., '99, from our 138 egg strain Barred Ply. Rocks that began laying Feb. 12, 1900, and averaged 2½ eggs each in March, and 2½ each in April. We will send you eggs from the parents of these pullets at \$2 per sitting; \$5 per three sittings, and guarantee you 7 or more chicks, or replace order free. Breeding pens contain strong, healthy, vigorous, nicely barred stock. No breeders for sale. Make P. O. money orders payable at Bellwood, Pa.
H. F. COX, Sabbath Rest, Pa.

61 Premiums on 51 Entries in '99...

Winning more first than all other exhibitors in my varieties. Exhibition and utility breeding stock for sale, \$1 each and upwards. Barred and White Rocks, White Wyandottes, Single Comb Brown and White Leghorns, R. I. Reds, and Black Javas. Write your wants.

GEO. A. CHAPIN,
Hampden, Mass.

PINE TREE FARM.

EGGS For Hatching

Do not buy until you get my catalogue and list of prizes won. At the recent Philadelphia show, with 13 entries, won 13 regular and 1 special prize; also at Madison Square Garden, New York, with 16 entries won 12 regular and 2 specials. Flavored Barred and White Rocks; White, Silver, and Golden Wyandottes; Single and Rose Comb White and Brown Leghorns; Buff Leghorns; Black Minorcas; Indian and Pit Games; Light Brahmas; Black Langshans; Black and Partridge Cochins; White and Pearl Guineas; Pekin, Aylesbury and Muscovy ducks; Toulouse, African, and Embury geese; White and Bronze turkeys. Eggs for incubators. Fertility guaranteed. Catalogue free.
D. A. MCINT,
Box F, Jamesburg, New Jersey.



A CITY POULTRY PLANT.
Yards of C. A. Sanborn, Mahlen, Mass.

the Standard, were there none better on exhibition. Doing this holds these specimens up to the relative merit of the class in which they are competing. You have "first prize certificates," as compared to second and third prize certificates in many a class of less merit; for they will show the specimen to score more. But such classes as win their second and third prizes on scores of less merit than 90 or 92, you see, are cut off from all chance to win merit cards, which shows their strength in protecting the numbers and the merit the generous exhibitor has brought to your exhibition, and the influence is to entice more liberal exhibits by competitors in the exhibitions adopting the plan. Thus will these merit cards become prized far more by our breeders as positive vouchers of merit than second and third prizes are now, and breeders will exhibit to secure them.

By examining the list of awards made by comparison, with five compulsory prizes, in a late and very prominent exhibition, one cannot fail to see how unreliable the system becomes in comparison to the decimal system we are representing. In that exhibition were two of the grandest and largest and most completely bred breeds; to wit, Light Brahmas and Buff Cochins; and it was conceded to be the best exhibit of them ever made in the United States. In this case the following

dottes for fifth and sixth positions at 74 points.

34 Black Cochins secured seventh position with 72 points.

Leaving the 310 Light Brahmas for eighth position with 71 points.

I am thinking you fail to see any justice in such a result. You see that such a system affords no protection for large classes of merit, that it gives every advantage to the small classes, and may even result in giving advantage to classes of poor quality. You see number and merit did not enter into the case at all. It became luck and chance. Luck in the chance of equal divisions of age and sex, and the chance of what padding the judges made of minor or complimentary prizes below the money.

At the Oakland, (Cal.) exhibition two years ago there were shown nearly two hundred of as fine Black Minorcas as I ever saw. What protection would they have over twenty-four of any other breed by such a rule? Would they and that superb class of three hundred and ten Light Brahmas have failed of first place if, as by the decimal system, we gave first, second, and V. H. C., then to every specimen scoring within one point of the money we gave a merit card that counted one point in valuing these collections? Do you, reader, see the influence and bearing of this system in its protection of the larger classes,

exhibited as mated by the competitor, penned by themselves and not eligible in the open class competition, their exhibition thus becoming an object lesson for the amateur and a recognition of the male as half the breeding pen.

Ask the candid question: Would not the use of the decimal system of score card application of the Standard with the awards as here indicated becoming a universal rule for all the exhibitions, be for the best good of the breeders, and cause the entire exhibits in these exhibitions to sell at higher average prices for all that can be strictly classed as first class or premium stock, while it would relegate to the kitchen uses all that were not, for birds scoring 86 or less would receive no record or recognition.

In our fourth consideration we protect those whose public spirit creates for the breeders' benefit our exhibitions. We do this in our classifications. I claim that our exhibitions have no right to offer premiums to fowls not recognized by the Standard. Neither has a breed a right to expect first class premiums until they are completely bred and exhibited in sufficient numbers to entitle their exhibit to be considered first class in that respect.

To protect both, we five years ago offered the following classification, with its specifications which barred no breeder from figuring in company with the leaders, by breeding his



SOME OF OUR EXPERIMENT CLUB WHITE WYANDOTTES.
Owned by C. A. Sanborn, Malden, Mass.

breed worthy a sufficient number of entries; thus making the success of our exhibitions a mutual responsibility between management and exhibitors. We think the decimal system secures this in its provision for principal and auxiliary classes. Our agricultural societies are hampered so that offering prizes large enough to secure first class exhibits in the money earning breeds, and the ones best fitted for the farmer's use, prohibits offering the same to all obsolete breeds. This phase of the dilemma and protection to our exhibitions can be governed only by classification, when under the same patronage all can share alike.

Under the head of "Principals," should appear the popular, recognized standard varieties, known for their merit, which are exhibited in numbers to enable first class premiums in cash to be offered. And the demand for sex and age should be for not less than five entries in each subdivision of the class, it being provided that when the number is less but fifty per cent of the premium money shall be paid. With this rule the exhibitions can see their way clear in offering three times the amount they could in a uniform way to all breeds, and the influence would be to secure very much larger classes. This divides the influence and responsibility between exhibitor and exhibition.

In the "Auxiliary Classes" should be listed all the Standard breeds that are losing their interest in our exhibitions, also all unrecognized new breeds aspiring to recognition. To these, while the exhibition offers the chance of their introduction to the visiting public, the prizes, or recognition of merit shall consist of only ribbon awards, with this proviso,—when such breeds are shown in sufficient numbers (five or more entries in each division of their class), then they are to receive the same premiums offered in cash to the "principals," leaving their further protection to special prizes from the specialty clubs which are fostering these new breeds, or breeds which have fallen away.

This leaves the "auxiliaries" to the sole responsibility of their owners and friends, whether they will raise them to the dignity of "principals" by the generous number of their entries, or leave them with their meager exhibits in the auxiliary classes and take only ribbons as prizes.

This protects the exhibition from hucksters' exhibits of single pairs in obsolete breeds filching the cash prizes. At the same time it opens a way for the honest lovers of our exhibition sorts, which do not figure as utility breeds, to secure their universal culture. It does not injure in the least the honest breeder but forces the breeds in larger numbers into general use and exhibition, and relieves the

popular kinds from being obliged to take insignificant prizes, because they must divide the cash honors with the unpopular. The system will insure better balanced classes, and the show managements protected against loss to a greater degree than in the past.

To classify is the work of the managers of each show. Comparing entries at past shows they can soon tell which breeds were popular, which were self supporting by their entry list, which were the paying ones that enabled them to run their exhibition. Take the American class for an example, as principals we have Barred and White Plymouth Rocks, Laced, White and Buff Wyandottes; as auxiliaries, Black and White Javas, Jersey Blues, Partridge and Black Wyandottes, Buff Plymouth Rocks. In such a case the society can offer generous prizes for the principals, and the fact that they do, will lead those interested in auxiliary classes to make entries enough to enjoy their benefit and first class reputations.

Suppose I am the only exhibitor of Black Javas. There is no doubt at all but such a classification would enable the management to offer cash prizes large enough to induce me to show the full required number, twenty-one birds, to secure the prizes in the principal classes. The show would be none the poorer, and would have had a first class exhibit of Black Javas; and the exhibitor would go home with a pack of prizes and merit cards to enable him to sell the fowls exhibited for probably twice the amount of the exhibition expense above the price he could have realized had he stayed at home, and best of all would be surer of the sales than if he had failed to exhibit.

Specialty clubs and breeders, think this problem to the bottom, and use your influence to have the system become popular and universal.

I. K. FELCH.

Don't Crowd the Coops.

One of the things some live poultry shippers do not fully appreciate is that there is no profit in crowding poultry at any time, and in the summer when weather is hot it is impossible to keep the shrinkage down when the poultry is crowded in the cars or coops so heavily that they die from suffocation. If weather is hot when the poultry is started the shipper is apt to properly fill the coops, but when a cool wave appears they crowd in the poultry in most cases as heavily as during cold winter weather. The result is that weather often turns warmer before the car reaches its destination, and the car arrives with a heavier shrinkage than is necessary or would have been had the fowls been packed more thinly.

—N. Y. Produce Review.

The Sham Indian Runner Duck.

Almost all domestic animals bear names different than those they had in the countries where they originated. It is common for the one who presents a new race or variety to seek to deceive the public, or rather the purchaser. When for the first time we presented to our readers, from the English journals, the duck called in England the Runner, we preferred to give it the name "Canadian Runner." It was August 12, 1894, and we had then another choice (of names). We did not accept the term "Indian," because that word applies equally well to America and to Asia. The English do not know, or pretend not to know from what country came the very ordinary duck which they have baptized by the name of "Runner," first *Canadian*, then *Indian Runner*. It is under the latter name that they are entered at the shows in England. We have reproduced the first cut which we found in an English journal representing this pretended new race of ducks. In carriage they are not better than the penguin common in the shows of the Netherlands, and in respect to regularity of markings, and of color they are easily inferior to any quantity of specimens one may see any day at Huttegem, at La Plaigne, and still farther off in France, and especially, as we have remarked, at Utrecht.

The first description (or proposed standard) was made by Mr. Pickering six years ago. According to Mr. W. Weir, the first lot of these ducks known in England came to Warkington about 1874, and they were kept only in the northwest. In general they were called "Canadian Runners," rather than "Indian Runners." The duck had a striking resemblance to the Bahama duck which originated in Chili. The first which Mr. Pickering saw were those of Mr. Little, of Wraeg, Carlisle, some twenty-six years ago. He considered that the honors of giving them the name, "Indian Runner" belonged to him. But they bore another name in the country of their origin. They are the blue-billed ducks of Huttegem.

The ducklings hatched in March lay from July to September—eight weeks, then molt and rest for another eight weeks. Then about November they begin laying again and continue throughout the winter, regardless of snow and cold. As table ducks they mature quickly and are of superior quality,—most savory meat of all races.

One could believe he was reading a description of a lot of ducks of the meadows of the Scheldt.

In Belgium, by grace of the modesty of the breeders (I can find no other expression for it) we opened classes for the Anglicized

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Indian Runners before we had them, their standard and the record of their performances being not yet established, because we held in like regard the ducks of Huttegem, La Plaigne and elsewhere, which are all *runners*—unless they should be too slow in assembling on the green land of the prairie.

It was the Canadian Runner, in the judgment of the French breeders, which came from England to compete in their exhibitions and was shown at Paris under the English name "Indian Runner." Since then we have met them again in Holland, in Germany and everywhere. Behold how a duck very common in Holland, in Belgium and all through northern France arrived at the honor of being shown at Paris under an English label; while the same duck selected for centuries for laying and table qualities had not a class—not even a name at The Hague, at Brussels, and at Lille. It is not a unique case. The Rouen duck has been bred in England solely to gain prizes at shows; it does not possess a single one of the qualities necessary to make it an object to cultivate it. It has classes and representatives at all the shows on the continent. We have not failed to praise it throughout these years, to demand classes for it with might and main; we ourselves offered to judge at Paris the French duck which is most productive and best appreciated by the growers and consumers both in France and abroad. Now, in 1900 the famous giant duck of Normandy is no more of the derivation openly determined. The English claim it as a duck originating in England, and that the name "Rouen" is not from Rouen, but is from "roan." The French at all their shows demand that the duck shown under the name of Rouen shall be of the English type or dark Rouen. As for the true original Rouen, the French Rouen, it is sometimes called tame duck of Normandy, Norman duck, pure Rouen type, dove colored Rouen, etc.

The Englishman is always practical. He makes a great deal of noise about the Rouen, English type. So it happens that when a stranger having tasted at Paris or elsewhere one of our admirable Rouen ducklings, wishes to breed them, he procures his breeders not in Normandy, but at the principal English shows. One day a Belgian amateur, M. Groverman commissioned us to bring back to him from Paris, where we were going to judge, one of the Rouen males of the stock brought from England by M. Meslay.

M. Meslay showed us an English book treating of the hare and rabbit, in which were a few pages treating of the Indian Runner duck. We looked for new information concerning the origin of the mysterious Runner.

This race—writes Mr. J. Donald—has been known in Cumberland for more than fifty years. A drake and three ducks were procured at Whitehaven from the captain of an India ship. Another lot was imported by the same gentleman some years later. It is probable that the modern Indian Runner ducks are descendants of these two importations. Their importer gave them no name. The ducks attracted his attention by their vivacity and by their bearing, like that of the penguin. The gray farm duck of Cumberland was frequently crossed with the "Runner," and a distinct race of gray and white Runner ducks thus produced. With a little selection and care, in a few years the new type was fixed. The gray tinted with pale brown are most of the Runner type probably because they drew more from the early importations.

The pamphlet tells nothing new, unless it be that the promoters of the sham "Indian Runner" do not know, or feign not to know where to look for the new race which they have made an English race.

According to Mr. Donald, the beaks of the ducklings are at first yellow. At about the age of three weeks, a green line appears at the base of the beak. This spot extends little by little to the whole mandible, until at the age of a year the entire beak is green, in the duck a dark cucumber green, and in the drake a yellowish green. The duck which Mr. Donald portrays accordingly originated at La Plaigne, that described by Mr. Pickering at Huttegem.

According to Mr. Donald, the Runner produced by crossing may be distinguished by the form and color of the beak; the brown beaks, those with a leaden tint, or ticked with brown, or having bluish ticks, are defective;

also short beaks, flat or high. The gray variety sometimes betrays its origin by the development on the wing bar of the ribbon of blue (iridescent) which characterized its ancestors. In form it is round, short, its carriage depressed or horizontal, indicating very near parentage with the gray common ducks of the farm.

With us, the Runner ducks of the meadows along the Scheldt may be black, blue, fawn, white, self or parti-colored, but are never iridescent. The English have as yet a "standard" for but a single variety, the fawn marked with white, with either blue beak or green beak.

We are richer than they in revenue making properties, and are able to send the message to them and to all other people desiring ducks having the supreme quality of laying the year round without wanting to sit, good rustlers living exclusively on the green meadows where they collect their food from the day after they are hatched until the day they are dressed for the market. Ours have been selected for centuries for their practical qualities. If one wishes to select for appearance, for size, for form, for special colors and markings, he has but to go among the peasants and make his choice. It is our duty to make this selection for ourselves under penalty of seeing the same ducks re-imported under English, Indian or American names.

We have the giant blue ones with blue beaks, the fawn colored ones with blue or rose colored beaks, the white ones with white beaks; likewise the little white ones with beaks of blue, white or yellow, and the little black ones with black beaks. We have medium sized ones—black and white, blue and white, fawn and white. The white varied in form and extent. The white of the neck extending upon the whole head, upon the breast, upon the back, on the belly to the tail, or restricting itself to a single spot upon the front of the neck.

The head may be either marked with a single V-shaped mark, or all of one color. The white of the flights may not show in the large feathers, or it may extend upon the wing, or there may be just enough of it to mark the duck. As to form the giant ducks should be very long with the body carried as nearly horizontal as possible, seeing that they do not need to run about foraging for food. The little ones should have as much flesh as is possible upon a light and nimble frame. They develop by exercise, and should be able to run about very quickly and for as long a time as they desire. The medium sized ones, that is to say, the practical race, the race produced upon the meadows should have the form of medium sized Runners.

The study and control of the breeding of ducks has been too long neglected. We should organize races of ducks, and in a little while we would be able to determine what should be the form, the weight and the color to give to the medium sized ducks of Huttegem and La Plaigne. We have a science of breeding of the horse, of the dog, of the fowl, of the hare, of the pigeon; why not apply a little of our knowledge to a careful study of the breeding of the duck?—*Chasse et Pêche*.

Live Poultry Losses.

The extreme heat prevailing not only here but in nearly all parts of the country has caused extraordinary losses from shrinkage in live poultry while in transit. In a car from Tennessee that arrived last Wednesday over 1,000 head died in transit, and the birds that were alive on arrival here were in badly heated condition and had to be forced out at low prices. The owner came through with the car fortunately for the consignee, as it would have been difficult to have made him believe the shrinkage could have been so heavy. Another car from Iowa arrived the same day in charge of a competent man that lost over 400 head dying between Chicago and New York. We merely mention these two cars as instances, but nearly all the arrivals by freight during the heated terms lost very heavily, while the express receipts from any distance suffered even more in proportion than the freight receipts which are accompanied by men to take care of the poultry while on the way.

—*New York Produce Review*.

Preventives of the Vice of Egg Eating.

Perhaps many will read this heading with eagerness, only to leave the article with disappointment; but our freedom from having to contend with this vice leads me to give our methods of treatment of the layers, in the hope that similar methods may give similar results, even though there may not seem to be enough of originality in them to be at all startling.

When I read a tale like that of Mrs. R., (June 15th issue), I am always filled with wonder. Every one, it seems to me, believes in egg eaters, for the trouble is always treated with respect, as a serious one. And, indeed, I do not know of another which could be more annoying, or much more discouraging, unless it were an epidemic of disease which threatened the whole flock. But I have had to do with poultry all my life, and never but once do I remember that we had an egg eater; I am positive that we have not had a single instance of this vice in the last eleven years, and, during that time we have kept fowls of eight different breeds, at least, and in each of the three great divisions, Mediterraneans, Americans, and Asiatics, the Leghorns have been very largely in the majority, and they would naturally have been the great sinners of the lot.

Now, one hates to put forth a theory in face of the experience of such a large number of poultry keepers, who may think it nonsense because their experience has bred in them a belief in the necessity of egg eaters for some people. But I have a theory, working upon which we have been long free from this trouble. For this reason I venture to put it into words. This theory is based on the belief that it is always safe to follow the instinct of the fowls. If their instinct leads them to devour eggs with avidity, it is because these supply a need which it is dangerous to leave unsupplied. In plain terms, the theory is that the bird fully supplied with the foods and conditions which nature demands will never become a confirmed egg eater.

"A confirmed egg eater" is what I meant when I said that we had never had an egg eater—that is, one in which the eating of eggs has become a habit—a vice—as per our heading. I do not deny that hens are almost invariably fond of eggs, nor that they will rush to secure their portion of any that are broken, nor that it is dangerous to have many soft-shelled eggs where the birds can get at them.

Before we can get at a cure for any trouble, we must have a hint as to its cause. If you say that the cause is the presence of soft-shelled eggs in light nests, where the birds are hourly tempted to bad habits by the ease with which they may be acquired, it sounds plausible; but I do not believe you are going far enough back of the trouble. The cause of soft-shelled eggs is what I am going back after. It may be too much fat—perhaps it is, sometimes. More often, I think, it is the lack of some element necessary to the birds in making up the tremendous tale of eggs which we demand of them, which, in Mediterraneans, is about five times their own weight



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annually, even if we are reasonable enough to be satisfied with 150 a year.

But here I strike a snag; grit and shell are popularly supposed to furnish anything lacking in other supplies, and a large number of those who complain of this vice among their flocks state that they supply grit and shell regularly. Well, we supply grit and shell—not regularly, for the different pens eat varying quantities—but, say, irregularly. We aim to keep the boxes always supplied; but the calls on time are legion, and if a soft shelled egg appears, or the egg record drops when it ought to keep on the level, or a case of indigestion presents itself, I have learned to look at the grit and shell boxes before I worry about anything else. Almost invariably there is lack here which needs only to be supplied to right the difficulty.

We need to realize more than we do now that not all which we supply is assimilated, or digested so that the system of the birds can appropriate it. Different birds bring different capacities to the work of digestion, and it may happen that the supply which serves one properly may lack something which another needs at just that time. This is the point where variety in food and supplies becomes especially helpful. If supplies are at hand, the bird will take what she needs most, as a general rule.

There is a distinction, too, between the elements of nutrition as they appear in different supplies—probably this difference lies in digestibility, or even palatability many times. For instance, a hen must be hard pushed before she would take her protein from raw beans, much as she likes peas, which seem so like beans in many respects. Again, the lime in one product is not available as is the lime in another. Our good friend, Mr. Jacobs, did not weary in long years of declaring that oyster shells were useless because the lime could not be assimilated. But earnest students of science tell us that lime from any organic source differs very materially from that which is mineral, or inorganic. Oyster shells are part of a once living body, therefore different from lime from limestone. Lime from clover may, I take it, be usable when other supplies are unavailable to the bird's system.

Last spring, at one time, I began to fear my theory was going to sniffer too severe a strain, and that we would have this vice wholesale in spite of us. We were moving to new, unfinished quarters. The birds were not only in new conditions and quarters, but were shamefully neglected through the stress of the occasion. The fright and disturbance consequent on moving many nervous Leghorns resulted in laying both accelerated and delayed. Soft shelled eggs, eggs dropped at random, night laid eggs, etc., were numerous. Supplies had purposely been allowed to run low that they need not be moved. The clover gave out at the critical moment, and for three days I could not go to the yard without finding evidences of broken and eaten eggs. Yet it was scarcely twenty-four hours after a new supply of clover was begun on, when, with grit and shell also in plenty, the trouble disappeared as suddenly as it appeared, and I do not think an egg has been eaten since in the yard which showed the worst symptoms.

Precautious methods are always in order. Our system, then, briefly stated, is this:—To supply a variety of food, both grain and vegetable; never to be without clover; never to omit good shell and grit; never to neglect to gather all eggs at least twice a day, nor to provide nests enough to forestall quarreling, so common among active birds that all want the nest at once. I have known 13 Leghorns to lay in one nest in the course of a forenoon, even when other nests as good and as well located were at hand. A nest egg was the drawing card. The wholesale preference for this nest continued until a nest egg was furnished for the others, when it at once ceased. It is absolutely necessary to know both breeds and individuals before birds can be handled to best advantage. For instance, to set a Leghorn in the general pen would be to risk breakage of all her eggs before her three weeks elapsed; in the Wyandotte pens it can be done with impunity, if there are nests enough. Perhaps it is needless to say that I do not advise it; but circumstances decide many things.

The large handler of birds can know breeds, but he can rarely know individuals, and this

is one of the reasons why he cannot succeed so well, proportionately, as with a smaller number of birds.

MYRA V. NORBY.

M. K. Boyer's Ideas of 200-Egg Hens.

Some of our exchanges are having a friendly bout over what can be expected from an up-to-date, busy hen. The editor of the *Feather* says it must and will be 200 eggs per year, while the editor of *FARM-POULTRY* does not believe it will ever exceed 150 eggs per year. These are average figures in both cases.

There is no disputing the fact, with the introduction of an improved system of trapping the hens and getting their individual records, and subsequently breeding only from the best layers, we will eventually make a big stride toward the 200-egg bird. But whether the general average will ever reach even the 150 egg mark is a question. To average 200 eggs a year, in a flock, it would require a number of layers in that flock with a record of 250 or more eggs, for each hen would not lay the exact 200 and then stop.

So it would be to secure the 150 egg record. It would be necessary to have quite a number of 200-egg layers.

Since experiments have been conducted all over the country with improved trap nests, the fact has become apparent that there are individual hens in many flocks that do remarkable laying. We cannot just now recall what has been the highest figure reported, but it was something like 250 eggs. But such cases are rare. Quite a number 200-egg hens have been developed, but the majority of heavy layers were nearer 150 eggs each.

While we believe in breeding up for heavy records, yet at the same time we had rather have our hens average 120 eggs a year, and remain in robust condition, than to have their systems drained of vitality in the race to pass the 200 mark. There is a reason in all things. If we are to forge our stock ahead to be champion layers, we are going to do it at the sacrifice of something else. Look at the hardy looking prize fighter with all the strength and force imaginable—a perfect picture of health. Watch him when on a decline, and see how rapidly he collapses and how prematurely he grows old. It will be so with our hens.

What will become of our meat supply if we are going to put all the forces to work on eggs? When we spend our food and attention on the fowl with a view to creating an ideal carcass, do we not make the egg yield suffer? Will not this unnatural flow of eggs tend to cripple fertility and make weak and puny chicks?

Why not work for both eggs and meat? Why not have a limit? If we can gradually increase the powers of a hen that she will average 200 eggs a year, and still maintain health and meat qualifications, we say go ahead. But do not try to build up the one at the sacrifice of the other. Such work would soon produce a more delicate race of fowls than many fanciers have been guilty of.

We have had the average of 100 eggs right along. Take one step—make it 120 eggs; another step would take it to 150 eggs; another, 175 eggs; and still another, 200 eggs. Better go step by step, and build up the bird gradually to handle so much business, than to attempt to jump right up to the top, and have the whole matter drop to the ground like a "rope of sand."

Still, we want the 200-egg hen, if we can get her within reason.—*A Few Hens.*

Even now "in the dawn of the twentieth century," some untried moss-back will occasionally poke his head from behind a tree and yell out that "old fashioned hens lay more, eat less and taste better than the fancified kinds, and it don't break a man up when they die with the 'kolery.'" The moss-back's aged grand-dad held the above views with equal tenacity, but age don't make an error true. The pure breeds are unrivaled for beauty, constitution and ability to make money, and if their owners prefer housing and feeding them well to the "old way" of allowing them to roost in peach trees and die by flocks in the agonies of "kolery," it only shows better business faculty and more humane ideas than their forefathers possessed.—*American Stock-Keeper.*

Poultry at the Paris Exposition.

June 7—18, 1900.

The grand international competition of cattle and fowls opened in the superb park of Vincennes was a brilliant affair. It comprised more than 2,000 entries of cattle and 990 entries of sheep and swine. There were 2,700 entries of cocks, hens, turkeys, pigeons, waterfowl, rabbits, and also two entries of ostriches by M. M. de Mareillae and Favez-Verdier.

M. Vassiliere, the director of agriculture was president of the committee of organization of the entire exhibition. As usual, M. Mesnier was manager of the bird and poultry section, which is equivalent to saying that its management was beyond criticism.

The president of the jury for poultry was M. Jomot, senior minister of agriculture. The jury of each of the five sections was composed of from four to seven persons. It would take too long to name them all, but here are a few of the names best known:—

M. M. Roger Ballu, E. Lemoine, Rouiller-Arnould, and Henri Voittellier for the French breeds.

M. M. Wuirin, Le Brechemin, and our excellent friend, A. Detroy for the foreign breeds.

For the various Polish, Hamburg and American breeds, M. M. Couvreur and du Roy de Brunswick.

For the turkeys, waterfowl and rabbits, M. M. Nandin, Onstael Boucheaux, de Claybrook and Meslay.

For the pigeons, M. M. Tourey, Breschet, Wacquez, Viucelet, Laval, and Lepagniel.

The French Breeds.

The Crevecoeurs were represented by some very pleasing specimens. M. Albertin won the two firsts with some very beautiful specimens which attained the cage of honor as the most beautiful specimens on exhibition. The second prize cock of M. Philippe was excellent as was the third prize cock of M. Delmas who also won second for females with some hens of superior beauty.

The Houdans were very numerous. The first cock was very fine both in size and plumage. Second and third, M. Duperroy, two very good cocks. The hens were not so good. The best lot was that of M. Philippe, winning second prize, which contained two beautiful pullets and one with a very ragged crest.

The La Fleches were very much better. Friar Anthelme won with an enormous cock which had a comb with rather coarse horns too much spread apart. The second, M. Albertin, was superb in head but failed a little in form. Beautiful cocks were shown by M. M. Robin, Delmas, and Berthelme. The first prize lot of hens of M. Philippe was good, but not well matched in heads, nor as good as they might have been in size. The second lot, same owner, was composed of large hens with good heads. * * *

The Faverolles were numerous and comprised a good number of fine specimens. The first prize cock of M. Duperroy was of fine vigor, broad built with great breast development. The second and fourth prize cocks were also very good, and besides these cocks worthy of mention were shown by M. M. Albertin, A. Masson, and Philippe. Very nice lots of hens were shown by M. M. Duperroy, Philippe, and Mme. Durant.

The Cuckoos of Rennes were very worthily represented by the two cocks and two trios of hens of M. Edm. Rame. These specimens were very vigorous and very pretty and of good shade. They have more quality than the Scotch Grays. The "White Gatinais" with white feet and red ears are fowls highly recommended for fattening. M. M. de Mareillae and Favez, and de Vletter and Cie won on cocks and hens.

There were a few "Barbezieux." In these it is always M. Giet who wins in both cocks and hens. The specimens were of good bulk and very tall, but they were shown in rather bad condition. Many specimens had white in the face.

The Black La Bresse had good representation. The cock shown by M. Gogue was very beautiful, save that he lacked in form. Very good types as to body and head were the second by M. Delmas, and third by M. M. de Mareillae. The latter won also first and second

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on some beautiful hens which had pendant combs rather much wrinkled.

M. Albertin won with a gray cock, and MM. de Marcillac won on hens with some white birds. The most of these white hens closely resembled "Ramelslovers," and were purchased by German fanciers, probably to be used in making "Ramelslovers."

In "Courtes Pattes" (creepers) a very nice cock won first prize for M. de Perpigua. The hens shown by MM. de Vletter and Cie were very good.

In the miscellaneous French varieties first prize went to M. Robin for a very fine Golden Game, second to M. L. Bonneau for a cock of the smooth shanked Bourbonnais race. The first prize for hens went to Mme. de Memorin for smooth shanked Bourbonnais; second to M. Bissau for Gallic.

Foreign Breeds.

The foreign varieties were more numerous than the French varieties. The German fanciers sent a grand number of entries, and for the most part very good.

The fawn colored Cochins (Chinas have always kept their vogue in France. M. Delmas won with a very fine large cock of good color and some nice hens with good cushions and leg feathering but a little bleached by the sun. The second prize exhibit by M. G. Lemoine were a fine lot. The lot shown by M. Tassart were well preserved in color. The other lots were inferior. The Partridge Cochins were very good. First and second cocks, M. de Perpigua, were fine birds although the first was a little red in the breast, and head and comb were too coarse. There were two nicely marked hens in the first prize lot of M. Delmas. Few of the other specimens were well marked.

Very fine Black Cochins cocks were the first of M. de Perpigua, and a bird shown by M. Allamasse. A very nice lot of old black hens was shown by M. Prieber.

The Light Brahma cocks seemed to me quite small. There was nothing remarkable in them; first went to M. Delmas, second to M. Gogue, third to M. Lemoine. A very good lot of hens with dark capes won first for M. de Marcillac. The nice Dark Brahma cock of M. Delmas won first, and his hens were very pretty, though one could wish for more penciling on the back.

The Silver Dorkings were rather numerous. M. de Marcillac won with a fine cock, a good silver white on the back, good toes; one could wish his head were more typical. Second and third went to MM. de Perpigua and Roger. An excellent cock a little out of condition was shown by Mme. Amherst; he merited better than he got. Her first prize lot of hens was very good, excellent in color, the toes might have been better. M. de Marcillac won second with a good lot of hens.

In miscellaneous Dorkings the dark bird of M. de Vletter certainly deserved first place. M. Lemoine took second with a pretty white one.

MM. de Vletter, Cie and de Marcillac won with Spanish cocks, the white faces of which were in poor condition. MM. de Vletter and Cie won first with some very beautiful hens. Second and third went to M. de Marcillac. This last lot were superior to the second prize birds, their faces better developed and whiter.

The Andalusians were quite insignificant, badly speckled or too light.

The Minorcas were well represented. Aside from MM. de Vletter and Cie, all the winners were Germans. First prize went to the very pretty cock of MM. de Vletter and Cie, excellent in comb, good ear lobes—but one of them a little lacking in surface. Second went to M. Hofman for a cock with superb comb and lobes. His comb was not perfectly straight and he had some white in the face. A very good cock was shown by M. A. Vos, who also won first with excellent hens, having very well serrated and irreproachable combs. The second prize to M. W. Maass was well merited. Very nice lots were shown by MM. de Vletter and Cie, Hofman and Maass.

There were some very beautiful Langshan cocks, especially the first prize bird of M. Cardin, which was very fine in shape; one could wish his comb a little finer. A pretty cock with a fine head was the second prize bird of Mlle. Somasco. Third prize went to a cock with very smooth legs, a beautiful

head, enormous size, clear gray eye, shown by M. Meinberg, and fourth to M. de Marcillac. The first and second prize lots of hens by Mlle. Somasco were pretty, but one could wish the first had a little more of the green lustre. Third and fourth went to MM. Cardin and Gogue.

The Silver and Golden Spangled and the Black Hamburgs came together in the same classes. The display of Silvers was much better than usual by reason of the German exhibits. First prize fell to M. Nenborth for a remarkably well spangled Silver cock with superb cape, very nice tail; one could wish his comb had been less coarse and the spike better directed. His young unplaced cock seemed to us the best of the collection by reason of his more perfect comb. Second prize went to a beautiful black cock, too long in lobes, shown by M. C. Bertrand. M. Lemoine had a good Black cock. M. de Marcillac's first prize lot of Silver hens were very pretty. M. Lemoine had second with some Golden which had too small spangles. The Golden of M. Delmas, in spite of their lobes being blemished were very superior, the plumage being well marked with large round spangles. Save for white in the face of one the Blacks shown by M. de Vletter were very good. M. C. Bertrand's Black hens were very pretty. M. Nenborth showed some beautiful Silver hens.

A silver Braekel cock, that was nice except in lobes, and some nicely marked hens were shown by M. Delmas.

The rose combed Campines and Silver and Golden Penciled Hamburgs were not of the best. The first prize Golden cock of M. Lemoine was a rather pretty bird but a little dark. Second prize went to M. Sodler, for a Silver of pullet breeding type, defective in head. M. Roth had a very pretty, though dark, Golden. The first prize Golden hens of M. de Marcillac were a nice lot. M. Sodler won second with some fine Silvers.

An excellent golden (black-red?) English Game cock was shown by M. Schreck; a good Brown Red by M. Reen; a good Pile in poor condition, by M. G. Lemoine; an excellent Silver by M. Schreck; some beautiful Pile hens by M. Lemoine; Browns by M. Reen, and Silvers by MM. de Vletter and Cie.

The Concours de Malines were a numerous class containing many good specimens. M. A. Masson's first cock was a nice bird but rather mossy on the breast and a little light and yellow. Second was a good cock by M. Delmas, and those shown by MM. Bisiau and Chevalier were worthy of mention. An excellent lot of hens, a little mossy and rather large won first for M. Masson. The second prize lot of M. Delmas were pretty hens, clearer in color. M. Robin's birds were large and dark.

A very beautiful Red Malay cock won first for M. de Perpigna. M. Albertin's second prize cock was good, but a little old. M. G. Schneider showed a Malay cock of good type of "mille fleur" color; M. de Marcillac a nice white one. The Indian Game hens shown by M. de Vletter were beautiful in plumage, but undersized.

The Plymouth Rocks were well represented. Two excellent cocks of the Barred variety, of good color, won first and second for M. E. Hofman. Third went to M. Dettman for a cock a little brassy. A very nice White was shown by M. W. Barre. The two pretty Blacks of M. Schweizer were highly commended. In hens the first prize lot of M. de Marcillac were coarse, but evenly barred. We preferred the second prize birds as of better plumage, and especially like those shown by M. Hofman, which were of great size and well marked.

The Wyandotte cocks were nice, especially the first prize Silver of M. Lemoine, which was first cockerel at Brussels. His back is well striped and one could wish his wing better laced. M. Lamb showed an excellent white cock free from creamy tinge, but with the comb not well corrugated. The nice Silver of M. Schmitting was considered worthy of mention. Mme. Fl. Amherst won with some nice large Silver hens that were well marked, but rather mossy in the back. Second prize went to M. Lamb for some pretty Whites with poor combs. The third prize Silvers of M. de Vletter would have been better if their backs had not been bare. M. Lemoine showed a good lot of Silvers.

In the thirty-seven exhibits of Leghorns

were some very handsome cocks. First prize went to M. Ludwig for a Brown, very rich in color. M. de Vletter won second with a fine White, and his third prize was the best Brown we have seen this year. In hens were the same number of entries, thirty-seven, of three each. I did not like the first prize birds of M. Schweizer, which were too rusty on the wings. Second prize went to some pretty Silvers shown by M. Wighorst, whose nice Blacks were also highly commended. M. P. Schmitz won third with some pretty Cuckoos. The greater number of the entries came from Germany.

Two handsome Silver Pheasant cocks and four beautiful hens were shown by M. Wichman of Hamburg. These specimens were in excellent condition and their tails were very long, also the saddle hangers of the cocks. The Black Sumatras of M. Boosdorf which won third were very handsome. So was the Phoenix fowl of M. le vicomte de Begoven, and the pretty Yokohama of M. de Perpigua.

The miscellaneous class was particularly interesting to fanciers who had never seen a German exhibition. M. E. Rabe won first with a cock of the variety called Thuringian. This was a very beautiful black bearded cock with single comb and blue legs. This race is also known at Banskauken by the name of "Cossack." Second prize went to a pretty White Ramelsloh which closely resembled our large white Brittany fowls. Third cock was a handsome "Lakenfelder" by M. Wichman, a cock with single upright comb, blue legs, an all black cape, black tail and white body. M. Lordick showed a pretty black Westphalian Creeper, longer in body than the French Creepers.

Noteworthy also were a white bearded cock and a pretty Scotch Cuckoo shown by M. G. Bohne, and a nice Orpington by M. Robin.

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The same exhibitors showed nice lots of hens of these breeds.

There was a remarkable display of Bantams. In Sebrights M. Liebeskind won with a Golden cock of the old type, less graceful and inferior in plumage to the modern type. His hackle left something to be desired. His Silver which won second did not please so well. M. de Perpigna won third with a pretty Silver cock. M. Lemaitre received mention on two pretty birds, a Silver and a Golden. In hens M. Zahn won with a very poor lot of Silvers, coarse, heavily laced, and one hen malformed. The lot of Golden of M. Liebeskind, which won second, were very much better. M. de Vletter's lot, which got third, were the best Silvers. M. Lemaitre had very nice lots of Golden and Silver, highly commended.

In Game Bantams Mme. Brinquant easily won first and second with two excellent, very slender Black Reds, well made and good in color. Second prize went to a nice Pile shown by M. de Vletter; third to a pretty Pile shown by M. Lemoine. It is to be regretted that thirty-six cocks of different colors should meet in the same competition; ditto for the hens. In hens M. Lemoine won first with some Birchen Grays. We preferred the Black Reds to them. Second and third prizes went to M. Lendel for some fine Silvers, and he also received highly commended for his Golden. The "Nagasakis" were not remarkable and the first prize was withheld. A second prize was awarded to one Ermine and second to some Blacks shown by M. de Perpigna.

The "Negres" were not showy. M. Robin's first prize cock did not have good feet, and his comb was too rough. M. de Mareillac's second prize bird was a pretty specimen. In the lot of hens was one good and two mediocre birds. In the other varieties of bantams a handsome Black Java cock, a little short, won first for M. Maitre. The Buff Pekin cock which won second for M. Friedland was very good, except that he had five toes on each foot. In hens first prize went to the Bearded Black d'Auvers of M. de Perpigna; while second went to the very beautiful Indian Bantams of M. de Vletter, who also showed some very nice Black Pekins.

The Guinea of M. M. Albertin and Robin were fine. The turkeys were not as good as we are accustomed to get together, but the Blacks and Whites of M. M. Albertin and Ludwig were good. Beautiful Toulouse Geese were shown by M. Delmas and Mme. la marquise de Chauvelin. There were some good Pekin ducks from Germany. We did not examine the ducks in detail.—PAUL MONSEN, in *Chasse et Pêche*.

Molting Time.

It may be said with some show of plausibility, that nature never intended the shedding of feathers to be attended with injurious results; but it is a fact that the shedding process is attended with more or less risk of life and health, dependent upon the general condition of the birds previous to the change. When the molting takes place early in the season the danger is lessened, because the weather is not so changeable as it is late in the fall. The old fowls molting late in the season is accounted for by their not having the feather making material in their blood to start new growths early in the season; consequently the process must be slow, both in growth and shedding. In young stock that is strong and healthy the new feathers are formed in their sockets before the old ones drop out.

Birds that are molting should be plentifully supplied with nutritious food, milk, bran, wheat, and vegetables. During the molt there is a desire on the part of the hens for certain kinds of food and mineral matter to repair the wastes. There are but few hens that lay when molting; only once in a while one that can supply eggs and feathers at the same time. This is the time when they should have comfortable shelter and suitable food, with a simple tonic once in a while; and they should be protected from the cold rains and winds until well covered. V. M. COUCH.

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The Black, Slate and Buff are not very popular, and but very few good flocks can be found. The Holland and Narragansett are both excellent varieties, and should stand several notches higher in "turkeydom" than they really do. Both varieties are above medium in size, and have plump meaty carcasses which when roasted are "fit for a king." They are not as good foragers, nor do I consider them as hardy as the Bronze, but they should be more plentiful on farms, taking the place of the nasty little scrub or mongrel turkeys that so many persons persist in raising.

We all know that the Bronze turkey deservedly leads in popularity. They are by all odds the most hardy breed of turkeys yet produced. They are great foragers and have such vigorous constitutions that they are rarely affected with disease. We have seen whole flocks marketed at Thanksgiving when the young toms averaged twenty-five pounds, and pullets sixteen pounds each, alive. None of the other varieties will reach these weights as young birds, nor would they make such an average when one year old. The Bronze turkey is surely king of the turkey tribe.

GEO. WOLF.

More Wonders.

As so many "I wonders" are going the rounds I would like to do some wondering regarding the American Poultry Association. In my travels I find out that the old association is getting in bad repute, and I "don't wonder." I wonder how long the old association would last if deprived of their copyright? I wonder what use is the old association to the thousands of breeders in the country in and out of the association? I wonder who put the idea of appointing tellers to count the vote into president Kegley's head. I wonder if he and the rest of the kickers knows that where most fault was found as to the count that the count was correct. I "don't wonder" as to the correctness, because I know, as I counted the vote, although I was not the then secretary. I wonder how many of the present members would go down in their pockets if there was an annual due of about \$1.00. I wonder if it would not be a good idea to establish and maintain a regular home office, open all the time, in some handy place.

Now, Mr. Editor, the sooner the old association crawls out of its old shell and gets "down to date," does something for the good of the cause, the sooner I say the better. There is not enough of the right kind of interest to do well. I feel very sure that before a great while a new society will show its head that will push the old one to the wall. The Toronto meeting was not just legal from my point of view, and I have heard all sorts of rumors about the Cedar Rapids meeting. Only three or four old members present. No association like this can live and move all over the country. It may be charitable, but it is not business.

My idea would be to have a regular home office and each state send its delegates to the yearly meeting instructed for this or that, as the case might be—just as the secret societies do now. It is very tiresome to hear so much fault found all over the country. Let us do something for the good of the cause. The only benefit or good that the association has ever done outside of the Standard is to give such fellows as myself a few hundred dollars a year.

I won't find any more fault, but I do wonder whether the American Poultry Association will ever become a real live thing, not a mummy as it is today. Politics and personal ends has been and will be the undoing of this association, and in closing all I can say is: I wonder, O Lord, how long must I wonder.—D. LINCOLN ORR, in *American Fancier*.

Danger in Baker's Bread.

Mr. Editor:—Can you throw any light on the following, which is a conundrum, to me at least?

Chicks droop their wings very low, feathers ruffled and dull; crop seems half full of water in some cases, in others quite empty. When they eat it is with difficulty. They act as if they had a lot of water in the mouth to swallow. After swallowing, stretch the neck and gape as if smothering. The beak appears elongated and sunken under eyes and they are much wasted in flesh. First symptoms appear when the chicks are about seven days old. They usually die at or before three weeks. I have made thorough search for head and other species of lice and can find none. Dust with Dahmatian powder,—hens and chickens once a week, and hens two or three times during incubation. The throats of the chicks appear perfectly healthy, droppings normal, except in last stages when they are inclined to be green and watery. The ones affected most are Black Minorcas.

Bill of Fare:—First week—Baker's bread crumbled and moistened with whole milk, not sloppy. Succeeding two or three weeks,—oatmeal, corn meal, pollards and bran, equal parts, or rather less of bran, made into a crumbly mash with boiling water. Bone meal and charcoal added occasionally. Last feed at night, cracked wheat. Fine grit, water, green food and dry bran always before them. Feed as often as they are hungry, and never more than they will eat up clean.

Stock birds in finest breeding condition, plenty of exercise and not overfat, are fed as F.-P. teaches and only healthy birds are used for breeders. Make them scratch for three parts of their living. Their eggs hatch splendidly, and chicks are strong, lively fellows for the first week. I have had four years in the business. My hens lay well in winter when neighbors' hens are on a strike. For this and for help over many hard places I thank F.-P., but the above completely nonplusses me. Last season I lost fifty per cent of chicks by the same trouble, and would be exceedingly grateful for an explanation of it.

Richmond, N. S. W.

R. MANLY.

P. S.—Since writing the above I opened a chick that had just died, and found all the organs healthy and well developed, liver very clean, grit and small amount of husks of broken grain in the gizzard. Color of inner lining bright yellow. Fore stomach has white spots size of pin head at regular intervals. They seem perfectly natural, not the least inflamed. Crop full of wind. Intestines the same. Very little else but air to be found in any part of inside. Intestines rather distended. R. M.

The conditions suggested inflammation of the digestive organs, and it appeared possible that the baker's bread, which often contains injurious matter, was at the bottom of the trouble. To make sure I referred the letter to Dr. Woods for an opinion, which he gives as follows: "The trouble with his chicks is undoubtedly inflammation of crop and intestines. As you suggest, it is possible that the trouble lies in the baker's bread, which may contain a considerable amount of alum or some other matter injurious to young chicks. I would veto that bread anyway on suspicion.

There is also the possibility that the drinking water is not pure and that it is given in filthy dishes. Also the chicks may get a chance to pick up slaked lime or salt (bread may be quite salt). I have had several cases reported of supposed poisoning of chicks by the commercial 'Dahmatian powder.' I have never seen a case. If it is true the insect powder is not the Persian or pyrethrum powder, which is not poisonous to chicks, but is fatal to insects. The trouble with these chicks is due to something they get to eat or drink, and it is up to the man on the ground to find out what it is."

The old adage, "The best is the cheapest," is never better illustrated than in the choice of your breeding stock. Always sacrifice quantity for quality. If you do not you will be a loser in the end, and never be satisfied at any stage of the business. You will always have a sufficient number of poor birds from the best stock available without beginning with poor specimens.—*Maine Farmer*.

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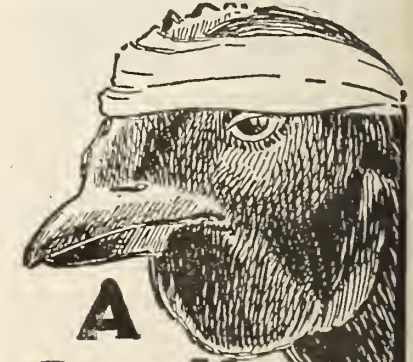
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SHOW DATES.

New England States.

Oct. 1-6. Danbury, Conn. Fair. G. M. Rundle, S'y.
Nov. 27-30. Torrington, Conn. C. E. Young, S'y.
Nov. 28-Dec. 1. Danbury, Conn. Fred Borman, S'y.
Nov. 28-Dec. 1. Brookton, Mass. W. L. Puffer, S'y.
Dec. 4-7. Nashua, N. H. E. T. Gibson, Sec'y.
Dec. 4-7. Wakefield, R. I. G. L. Kent, Pres.
Dec. 4-7. Clinton, Mass. E. J. Harris, Sec'y.
Dec. 10-13. Haverhill, Mass. Geo. I. Davis, Sec'y.
Dec. 11-12. Greenfield, Mass. F. E. Marsh, Sec'y.
Dec. 11-13. Milford, Mass. W. H. Pyne, Sec'y.
Dec. 11-14. Bristol, Conn. E. B. Hubbell, Sec'y.
Dec. 12-15. Westerly, R. I. Rhode Island State Show. H. S. Babcock, Providence, R. I., Sec'y.
Dec. 12-15. Manchester, N. H. W. B. Sanford, S'y.
Dec. 17-20. South Framingham, Mass. W. A. Mandell, Sec'y.
Dec. 20-22. Adams, Mass. Harry W. Ford, Sec'y.
Jan. 1-4. Woodstock, Vt. John S. Eaton, Sec'y.
Jan. 1-4. Lynn, Mass. Chas. E. Hunt, Sec'y.
Jan. 1-4. Beverly, Mass. Arthur Elliott, Peabody, Mass., Sec'y.
Jan. 9-11. Milford, N. H. Geo. F. Hawkins, Sec'y.
Jan. 15-19. Boston, Mass. A. R. Sharp, Taunton, Mass., Ass't Sec'y.
Jan. 22-24. West Brookfield, Mass. E. L. Richardson, Sec'y.

Middle States.

Aug. 27-Sept. 1. Syracuse, N. Y. S. C. Shaver, Albany, N. Y., Sec'y.
Aug. 28-31. Cambridge, N. Y. Fair. H. D. Qua, S'pt.
Aug. 28-31. Cortland, N. Y. W. A. Greenman, S'y.
Sept. 11-14. Poughkeepsie, N. Y. T. C. Van Wyck, S'pt.
Sept. 18-21. Allentown, Pa. W. K. Mohr, Sec'y.
Nov. 26-Dec. 1. Elmira, N. Y. Wm. P. Colvin, S'y.
Dec. 5-9. Johnstown, N. Y. H. S. Wemple, Sec'y.
Dec. 10-14. Meadville, Pa. H. L. Lamb, Cambridge Springs, Pa., Sec'y.
Dec. 11-15. Philadelphia, Pa. Jos. Baird, Ass't S'y.
Dec. 12-15. Amsterdam, N. Y. Wm. Phillips, Jr., Sec'y.
Dec. 24-29. Matteawan, N. Y. Hector Milsbaugh, Walden, N. Y., Sec'y.
Jan. 1-5. Orange, N. J. Chas. Nixon, Washington, N. J., Sec'y.
Jan. 2-5. West Chester, Pa. Fred D. Reid, Sec'y.
Jan. 8-12. Warren, Pa. J. H. Bowden, Sec'y.
Jan. 10-17. Rochester, N. Y. John Dreschler, Sec'y.

Near West States.

Nov. 19-24. Sunbury, O. B. Kempton, Sec'y.
Nov. 20-23. Big Rapids, Mich. B. W. Fellows, Sec'y.
Nov. 20-24. Marshall, Ill. J. Q. Snedeker, Sec'y.
Nov. 26-28. Beach City, O. W. H. Raff, Sec'y.
Nov. 26-28. Galesburg, Ill. Burt Repine, Sec'y.
Nov. 26-30. Yorkville, Ill. Sydney F. Hobbs, Sec'y.
Nov. 26-Dec. 1. South Bend, Ind. Chas. McIntyre, Sec'y.
Nov. 27-30. Mt. Vernon, O. Geo. H. Brown, Sec'y.
Nov. 27-Dec. 1. Moline, Ill. H. E. Biggs, Sec'y.
Nov. 27-Dec. 1. La Porte, Ind. Earl Hemenway, S'y.
Nov. 27-Dec. 1. Ashley, O. W. T. Linn, Sec'y.
Nov. 29-31. Macon, Ill. O. P. Bennett, Sec'y.
Dec. 3-7. Galva, Ill. F. E. Olson, Sec'y.
Dec. 3-8. Wooster, O. W. A. Lott, Sec'y.
Dec. 4-7. Mt. Pulaski, Ill. W. J. Lincoln, Sec'y.
Dec. 4-7. West Mansfield, O. G. F. Plotner, Sec'y.
Dec. 4-7. Battle Creek, Mich. Geo. S. Barnes, S'y.
Dec. 4-7. Goshen, Ind. J. A. Babcock, Sec'y.
Dec. 4-9. Mianisburg, O. S. B. Groby, Sec'y.
Dec. 5-11. Cincinnati, O. J. B. Ronnebaum, Sec'y.
Dec. 7-8. Aurora, Ill. W. M. Smith, Sec'y.
Dec. 10-12. Jacksonville, Ill. Chas. Reynolds, Sec'y.
Dec. 10-14. Lansing, Mich. Chas. H. Crane, Sec'y.
Dec. 10-14. Princeton, Ill. S. L. Smith, Sec'y.
Dec. 10-15. Indianapolis, Ind. J. C. Tarkington, S'y.
Dec. 17-21. St. Clairsville, O. J. W. Riley, Sec'y.
Dec. 17-21. La Crosse, Wis. E. H. Hoffman, Sec'y.
Dec. 17-22. Evansville, Ind.
Dec. 18-21. Upper Sandusky, O. Fred H. Inman, Sec'y.
Dec. 19-21. Homer, Ill. Geo. Adler, Sec'y.
Dec. 22-26. Toledo, O. Geo. F. Mueller, Sec'y.
Dec. 21-27. Elgin, Ill. H. E. Denison, Sec'y.
Dec. 24-28. Kalamazoo, Mich. J. S. Carr, Sec'y.
Dec. 24-29. Macomb, Ill. William I. Knowles, Sec'y.
Dec. 26-29. Ridgeville, Ind. S. E. Frazee, Sec'y.
Dec. 26-29. Sycamore, O. E. R. Williams, Sec'y.
Jan. 1-3. Port Huron, Mich. J. Stewart Crawford, Sec'y.
Jan. 1-4. Henry, Ill. W. G. Griffith, Sec'y.
Jan. 1-4. Lanark, Ill. E. D. Leland, Sec'y.
Jan. 1-5. Van Wert, O. C. E. Dettler, Sec'y.
Jan. 1-5. Chilton, Wis. G. N. Kersten, Pres.
Jan. 1-5. Danville, Ill. A. L. Rice, Sec'y.
Jan. 1-5. Columbia City, Ind. E. Carver, Sec'y.
Jan. 7-12. Rockford, Ill. B. R. Lucas, Belvidere, Ill., Sec'y.
Jan. 7-12. Detroit, Mich. Michigan State Show. John A. Grover, Concord, Mich., Sec'y.
Jan. 7-12. Bloomington, Ill. Illinois State Show. C. E. Ellsworth, Danville, Ill., Sec'y.
Jan. 8-12. Bloomington, O. W. F. Jefferson, Sec'y.
Jan. 8-13. Cleveland, O. F. R. Hunt, Sec'y.
Jan. 9-14. Dayton, O. Theo. Faustick, Sec'y.
Jan. 11-17. Whitewater, Wis.
Jan. 16-23. Logansport, Ind. Sol. D. Brandt, Sec'y.
Jan. 21-26. Chicago, Ill. Fred L. Kimmey, Evanston, Ill., Sec'y.
Jan. 21-26. Saginaw, Mich. Edw. Arndt, Sec'y.
Jan. 24-26. Cambridge, O. J. C. Sarrick, Sec'y.
*Carey, O. J. L. Yoke, Sec'y.
*Sunbury, O. B. Kempton, Sec'y.
*Ohio State Show. Chas. McClave, New London, O., Sec'y.

Central West States.

Nov. 6-8. Lyndon, Kans. J. W. DeHart, Sec'y.
Nov. 20-23. Koota, Ia. A. C. Smock, Sec'y.
Nov. 20-21. Panora, Ia. D. G. Wilson, Sec'y.
Nov. 27-29. Garden City, Mo. J. Cartwright, Sec'y.
Nov. 27-30. Burr Oak, Kans. A. J. Benbow, Sec'y.
Dec. 3-7. Kirksville, Mo. F. M. Buckingham, Sec'y.
Dec. 3-7. Braymer, Mo. R. Y. Glenn, Kingston, Mo., Sec'y.

Dec. 3-8. Newton, Kans. C. W. Glover, Sec'y.
Dec. 10-14. Fayette, Mo. E. E. Coddling, Sedalia, Mo., Pres.
Dec. 11-14. Mason City, Ia. S. V. Johns, Sec'y.
Dec. 11-14. David City, Nebr. Joseph Kay, Sec'y.
Dec. 12-16. Nashua, Ia.
Dec. 11-15. North Bend, Nebr. Thos. Fowler, Sec'y.
Dec. 17-20. Leavenworth, Kans. E. S. Singer, S'y.
Dec. 17-22. Dubuque, Ia.
Dec. 18-20. Laverne, Minn. N. R. Reynolds, Sec'y.
Dec. 18-21. McPherson, Kans. O. L. Tohy, Sec'y.
Dec. 18-22. Iowa City, Ia. B. A. Wickham, Sec'y.
Dec. 19-22. Aurelia, Ia. H. B. Green, Sec'y.
Dec. 24-27. Garner, Ia. H. E. Watts, Sec'y.
Dec. 26-29. Williamsburg, Ia. W. R. Long, Sec'y.
Dec. 26-29. Delphos, Kans. T. R. Clendenin, Sec'y.
Jan. 1-5. Waterloo, Ia. C. A. Hollis, Sec'y.
Jan. 2-5. Marshalltown, Ia. H. C. Hansen, Sec'y.
Jan. 7-8. Blair, Nebr. Herman Aye, Sec'y.
Jan. 7-12. Topeka, Kans. J. W. T. Hughes, Sec'y.
Jan. 8-11. Jefferson, Ia. P. O. Brown, Sec'y.
Jan. 14-16. Plauville, Kans. Wm. Mellett, Sec'y.
Jan. 11-19. Cedar Rapids, Ia. E. E. Richards, Sec'y.
Jan. 15-19. Lincoln, Nebr. A. Lemen, Sec'y.
Jan. 16-19. Pratt, Kans. Chas. A. Sloan, Sec'y.
Jan. 22-25. Sheldon, Ia.
Jan. 23-26. Great Bend, Kans. J. H. Jennison, Sec'y.
Jan. 29-Feb. 2. Mitchell, S. D. C. C. Bras, Sec'y.
Jan. 29-Feb. 2. Atchison, Kans. W. A. Jackson, S'y.
Feb. 5-9. Winchester, Kans. J. L. Forsyth, Sec'y.
Feb. 6-12. St. Paul, Minn. H. F. Huelster, Sec'y.
Feb. 11-14. Superior, Nebr. F. E. Fearing, Sec'y.
*Leavenworth, Kans. E. S. Singer, S'y.
*Salina, Kans. W. C. Sherrill, Sec'y.

Far West States.

Dec. 31-Jan. 5. Tacoma, Wash.
Jan. 1-5. Fort Collins, Colo. C. E. Lull, Sec'y.
Jan. 6-12. Spokane, Wash.
Jan. 14-18. Pueblo, Colo. J. I. Munsey, Sec'y.
Jan. 14-19. Denver, Colo. W. C. Schuman, Sec'y.
*Emmelaw, Wash. D. P. Jones, S'pt.

Southern States.

Oct. 16-19. Hagerstown, Md. John L. Cost, Sec'y.
Oct. 31-Nov. 2. Hamilton, Va. Joshua Hatcher, S'y.
Nov. 27-30. Perry, Ga. W. Hemmingsway, Sec'y.
Nov. 28-Dec. 1. Austin, Tex. C. S. Brigrance, Sec'y.
Dec. 3-7. Galveston, Tex. J. J. Hanna, Sec'y.
Dec. 4-7. Monroe, N. C. R. L. Simmons, Shelby, N. C., Sec'y.
Dec. 5-11. Little Rock, Ark. A. G. Russell, Sec'y.
Dec. 11-14. Fort Worth, Tex. J. E. Randall, Sec'y.
Dec. 12-19. Birmingham, Ala. D. J. Flummer, S'y.
Dec. 18-20. Weatherford, Tex. F. L. Marshall, S'y.
Dec. 18-21. Dallas, Tex. T. L. Lawhorn, Sec'y.
Dec. 18-22. Texarkana, Tex. Heber Vaughan, S'y.
Jan. 7-11. Guthrie, Okla. L. F. Lavery, Sec'y.
Jan. 7-12. Memphis, Tenn. G. A. Seyforth, Sec'y.
Jan. 16-19. Blackwell, Okla. Geo. M. Carson, Sec'y.
Jan. 21-23. Hennessey, Okla. W. T. Parnall, Sec'y.
Jan. 23-26. Kingfisher, Okla. H. F. Stephenson, S'y.

Canada.

Aug. 27-Sept. 9. Toronto Fair. H. J. Hill, Sec'y.
*List of awards will be published in FARM POULTRY.
N. B. Show secretaries are requested to notify us promptly of any errors or omissions discovered in our list of shows to occur.

A Poultry Judge.

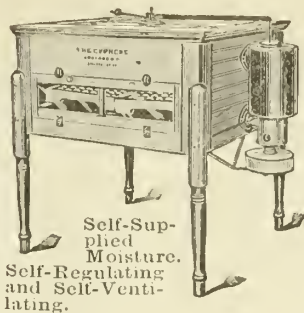
A poultry judge has sometimes been thought of as a man who has certain ideas regarding what a perfect chicken is, and who goes around the country picking the good from the bad, using his own judgment, and sitting down upon all other ideas put forth. This might have applied to some judges at a certain time a good many years back, but it is far from the picture of the up to date judge of today. A judge today has to judge fowls according to their merits as set forth in the Standard, and he has to be able to explain just how and why he makes every cut of a point, or even a half point. If he can't do this, or does not think it necessary to do so, he misses it. A poultry show is, or should be, a poultry school, where poultrymen can go and be shown just how the rules of the Standard are applied.

A poultry judge is a human being, just like the rest of us, and he gets tired, and sometimes gets cross, but it does not pay. He is paid for his services and is expected to do his best work. If he does not, he loses just that much of the estimation in which he is held.

We have had some examples of judges that the less said about their characters the better it will be for all concerned, but we will say right here that the days of drunkenness and debauchery at poultry shows are gone. It does not pay. A man is supposed to act like a gentleman around a poultry show in these latter days. Women are becoming prominent and numerous at our exhibitions, and we are glad to see it, and it has put an end to a lot of rowdism that could have been found about poultry shows a few years ago, and which we are sorry to admit can still be found among a few of our shows yet. Most any old poultryman can tell of shows where he has seen the judge so drunk that it would seem as though he could not tell a Plymouth Rock from a Leg-

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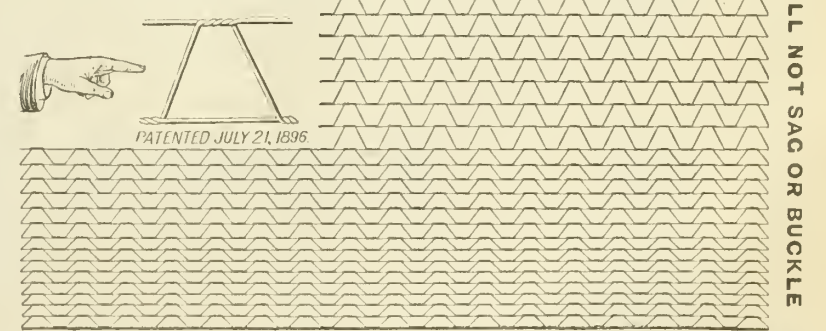
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FARM-POULTRY

• • Semi-Monthly, • •

The 1st and 15th of each month.

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EDITORIAL.

Poultry at the Paris Exposition.

Readers who are familiar with the better poultry exhibitions in this country will infer from the account of the poultry show held in connection with the Paris Exposition, which is given in another column, that from an American fancier's point of view the display there was decidedly inferior to what might be found any year in any one of a score of exhibitions here. As the mere recital of awards shows, the classification was in the expressive language of the day, something "fierce." It was largely on this account as we understand that English fanciers remained away, and it may be that the same reason kept the Belgian fanciers at home with their birds.

Premiums were awarded to cocks separately, to hens in lots of three. Old and young birds competed together. Different varieties met in competition in large classes, as they do sometimes in our shows on a smaller scale in the A. O. V. classes, which we think are tending more and more to disappear. Competition under such conditions could have no attractions for breeders familiar with more modern systems of classification.

The American reader will also be struck with the evidence of the preponderance in this show of birds rare here, or known mostly by reputation, and with the large number of varieties mentioned which we do not clearly recognize by name. Another thing which will attract his notice is the conspicuousness of a class of exhibitors who in this country could hardly escape being known as bucksters. We have to plead guilty to some of this class even in our leading shows, but they are not generally conspicuous for their winning in important classes.

In the report of the Paris show we find M. Delmas winning on Crevecœurs, La Fleche, du Mans, La Bresse, Buff Cochins, Partridge Cochins, Light Brahmas, Dark Brahmas, Golden Spangled Hamburgs, Braekels, Cuckoos of Malines, Toulouse geese, to say nothing of

ducks and rabbits. Several other names will be noticed as figuring often in the winning. Taken all in all the report suggests that the grand exposition, so far as poultry is concerned, was about on a par with some of our large state fairs which have not yet adopted modern methods of classification.

One point in this account is interesting and contains a practical suggestion. It appears (though we are not certain that things are as they seem) that in some cases breeders who competed against each other in males joined forces to make up a lot of females. Why not? And why should not our show managers abolish the rule requiring birds shown to be the property of the exhibitor, and permit some "team work?" We know the arguments which would be urged against this, but the idea has some features in its favor, and at an early date we propose to present a few of them.

The Decimal System.

Though we give a great deal of space in this issue to Mr. Felch's article on the decimal system, our doing so does not in any sense make FARM-POULTRY an advocate of that system. Taking its arguments in order we would probably find more points with which we differed than with which we agreed. Especially would we feel impelled to dissent from Mr. Felch's conclusions as to the general reformatory effects of the plan on our exhibitions. Can it be shown that the decimal system has given better satisfaction where used? The system has been before the public for some years, not entirely as presented here, but to some extent its practical workings have been tested. Is Mr. Felch prepared to show that, on the whole, the exhibitions where the decimal system was used have been run with less friction and better general satisfaction than others? Can this be shown from the testimony of exhibitors and others who have no interest in "systems" of judging, are not biased in favor of any one of them;—in short, by the unprejudiced opinions of those whose concern is only to see the prizes fairly awarded and the shows successful?

As all well posted readers will notice, many of the features of the decimal system are already in use at many shows where other systems of judging are preferred. The scheme for auxiliary classes simply anticipates in the classification a condition likely to be found in the entries. We cannot see that it would make any practical difference in results. Some of the other features strike us as simply changing a shoe that pinches one foot to the other, where it may pinch worse. The champions of other systems will find more than one opening for an argument, and we hope a number of them will avail themselves of it, for the same reasons which make the full presentation of Mr. Felch's ideas in judging timely, make a full discussion of the subject appropriate.

To Test the Systems.

We must confess that we are somewhat skeptical as to the decimal system, if adopted in its entirety, accomplishing more than a very small fraction of the betterment in conditions which Mr. Felch predicts it would bring about. Personally we have no preference for any system, and are inclined to think it is perhaps better that there should be several systems, to suit persons of different dispositions, than that there should be one universal system used to the exclusion of every other. And is it not probable that if a single system, no matter which, were agreed upon this year, within two or three years at most we should again have others in the field, vigorously advocated by their sponsors and gaining a very respectable following?

As we see it, it is not so much the weak points of the systems that cause trouble as the weak points of judges, and,—we may add,—of exhibition managers and exhibitors. These we shall have always with us, no matter what the system of judging employed. We must expect them and allow for them.

All systems have their faults as well as their excellent features. Each has its advantages, and each, without exception, has its disadvantages. The true comparison between them consists in the comparison of results. Do they place the awards alike,—not alike class for class throughout the show, but would the differences in awards considered broadly

be greater by different systems used by the same judge, than by the same system used by different judges? Suppose one of the leading classes at Boston or New York next season judged independently by six judges, two working by comparison, two by the American Poultry Association scale of points, and two by the decimal system, it would be interesting to see whether the judges working by the same systems would get closer together than the others. It would be quite safe to wager that the lists of awards thus furnished would indicate that the system is a matter of very little importance as compared with the personality of the judge.

If there are flaws in a system that is no reason why it should be discarded,—unless it can be shown that the fault cannot be remedied and that the system which it is proposed to substitute is better. Most of the best founded objections urged against the various systems are such as could without much difficulty be corrected. For instance, comparison judging is condemned by some because the matter of weight is often entirely ignored. The real ground of objection is not against the system, but against the method of practice, a method, by the way, not peculiar to comparison shows.

We are "many men of many minds." Why not then make up our minds that all the systems are here to stay as long as each proves satisfactory to any considerable part of the fraternity; and those of us who are interested in any particular system seek to increase its usefulness and extend its lease of life by improving and strengthening it?

Some Startling Discoveries.

At the Utah Experiment Station poultry experiments have now been carried on for three years. Bulletin No. 67 gives the results. There are some very good half-tone cuts in this bulletin. For the rest it is about as worthless a pamphlet as has ever come from any station. As far as may be judged from the "internal evidence" of the bulletin, the experimenter has not made very marked progress since the first year. His work then was that of a novice in handling hens—an intelligent novice, doing creditable work for a novice—but still most decidedly a novice without qualification for experimental work of sufficient importance to be undertaken at the public expense. After three years he is still pegging away trying to discover some methods which are common knowledge to most poultrymen of a year's practice and reading.

It would be a waste of time and space to review such a bulletin at length. In the matter of "Tables" it goes the limit with twenty, one of which covers six pages. Here however are a few of the findings:

"The results for three years are in favor of feeding grain in a box against feeding it in straw and making the hens scratch it out."

But—the experimenter "prefers not to draw any definite conclusion at this time. It is possible that some modified form of exercise would give better results. The intention is to continue experiments along this line until some definite law is established."

Meantime poultry keepers will go right on giving their hens exercise enough to keep them in good condition.

"Eggs from different hens of the same breed varied in weight."

We had always suspected that, and it is gratifying to have the fact thus officially verified.

It was also discovered that hens laid larger eggs in their second year than in their pullet year. Further, that old hens weighed heavier than they did as pullets.

But the climax came in the "caponizing experiment." This was "an initial test with one cockerel and one capon." The experiment showed neither gain nor loss in growth from caponizing.

"However, another somewhat decisive test was made as to the value of caponizing. These two birds were both dressed and cooked in the same way and served at the same table."

"This test clearly demonstrated the superior quality of the meat of the capon. One striking difference in the appearance of the two birds, as shown by the photograph, was the absence of comb and wattle development in the capon. Another noteworthy characteristic of the capon was that he was much more

docile than the cockerel, and showed little or no disposition to fight.

"These chickens were fed a part ground grain and part whole grain ration till about the end of January. After that several changes were made in feeding. Part of the time they were fed all ground grain, and this was varied by feeding it dry and then in a mash. During the last two or three months it was difficult to get them to eat any amount. During most of the experiment they were confined in a close pen."

What will be learned next year?

Poultrykeepers, Prepare for the Worst!

A special dispatch from Washington to the *Boston Herald*, of Aug. 2, contains this information:

"A report on the method of raising fowl for the market in Belgium has been sent to the state department by Consul-General Lincoln, at Antwerp.

"The succulence of the 'poulet de Bruxelles' has a very widespread reputation," says the report, "not only among gourmets, but among all who have had the good fortune to travel upon the continent and to meet the same on the table.

"The difference in quality between the fowl above mentioned and one of the same age and size of the ordinary variety, is shown by the fact that the first is sold in nearly all the markets in this country at double the price.

"The choice of eggs for setting purposes is considered a matter of great importance, and the freshest obtainable are almost invariably used. The best breeders seldom take eggs older than eight days for raising the best quality. Care is taken that the eggs given to one hen should be of the same age.

"The food first given the young birds must be made up of ingredients containing large quantities of nitrogen, as this is required for the formation of the tissues. It is customary to mix with the food eggs, milk, and the blood of earthworms, field worms, and that of a common variety of fish; also to introduce, for the formation of bone, certain quantities of phosphate of lime found in grain and flour. In the early days flour should be given. The grain given is wheat, rice, millet, buckwheat, and corn, raw or cooked. Cooked potatoes are also often given."

Doubtless this means that there is to be inflicted upon us another "Government Bulletin" of the kind better left unpublished. Or, perhaps the matter is to be incorporated in the "special government publication" announced some months ago. We are not informed of the precise nature of this publication, but we learned from *Agricultural Advertising* for March that Geo. E. Howard of the *Feather* was at that time preparing some special sketches of American breeds to be used in illustrating it.

It was added that, "The plates of Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes Mr. Howard has prepared are of striking beauty and correctness—in contrast with some of the plates that have appeared in government publications." As probably the worst plates which ever appeared in any government publication were prepared by the afore-said Howard for the notorious "Bulletin No. 51," we fail to see the pertinence of *Agricultural Advertising's* comment.

Editorial Notes.

The methods adopted by one of our contemporaries to suppress the practice of borrowing show birds have not seemed to us likely to have much effect; but we do not think such pointed criticism as this from N. J. Groby, in the *Ohio Poultry Journal* is merited:

"I saw an article from the editor in a poultry journal, recently established, where he states that borrowing and lending birds for show purposes is an outrage on civilization and the competing exhibitor. This, no doubt, is true. Every bird should belong to the person exhibiting it. But we think back to the balmy days of the brother, when he was on the circuit with a long string of borrowed birds, and we had him as a competitor for prizes, and a judge, of whom he had borrowed birds, to make the 'awards.' And from the editor's perch he points his finger at the multitude of exhibitors, and says, 'Ye guilty

shall be punished.' It is just one more case of the pot calling the kettle black."

It may or may not be true that the editor who now condemns the practice of borrowing was once guilty of it himself. Mr. Groby's unsupported assertion is not proof. But suppose it were true, are not converted sinners the most sincere and active reformers?

Says a correspondent in an exchange:—

"Call it superstitious, bad luck, or what you please, I have set hundreds of eggs on Sunday, and have never been able to get to maturity a chick hatched from an egg that was set on Sunday, and I have given it up. The hen will sit until Monday, and the eggs will keep. The job is a small one, and I think Monday is sure to bring better results. I am not superstitious, but we have facts before us that make us think. I remember of finding a hen broody in a very desirable place on Sunday, and I immediately secured fancy eggs and set her. Imagine my consternation, when the three weeks were up I found my hen, but not an egg, chick, or anything else under her."

Wonder if his chickens which hatch on Sunday live, or if the eggs laid on Sunday keep as well as the others.

Mr. Feleh's illustration of how comparison judging failed to place a sweepstakes prize where it should go overlooks a most essential point. The award was not made to a class but to an exhibit in a class.

The American Fancier wants to know "what is to be gained by trying to undermine the foundation of American thoroughbred poultry culture," (i. e. the American Poultry Association?)

Let's see. Wasn't thoroughbred poultry culture carried on for a good many years before the A. P. A. came into existence? We have always had an idea that the "old society" was only the front of the poultry industry building, put in about twenty-five years ago, not very well taken care of, and now in need of a thorough remodeling, if not already past repair. But if that view is wrong, if it is

really the foundation, we must say that never before did so large a structure rest on such a poor and small foundation.

On Wednesday, August 1st, occurred the death of Mr. C. H. B. Breck, president of the Joseph Breck & Sons, Corporation, the well known seed and implement and leading poultry supply house of New England. Mr. Breck had attained the ripe age of eighty years, and during the course of a long and useful life had not only taken a leading part in building up a great business, but had been active in social and religious circles and had served his community and state in various important positions.

A Texas fancier suggests that for the purpose of identifying show birds, judges passing upon them at shows mark or brand them in some way. Wouldn't a bird that had passed through the hands of half a dozen judges in a season be a nice looking specimen? And the fakirs! They would soon be as expert in the manipulation of brands as are some of the cattle rustlers in the "wild and woolly."

Advertisers in FARM-POULTRY get results. Here is a curious illustration of the fact. Mr. Samuel Cushman sends us an envelope bearing a Wisconsin postmark, which was addressed to

Samuel Cushman,
Rhode Island,
Reds.

The letter was sent to the Providence, R. I., post office, where the correct address was supplied.

Our interpreter and translator may be at fault in places in his renderings of the two articles republished in this number from our esteemed Belgian contemporary. French poultrymen are like others in using many words in a technical sense not recognized by the dictionaries, and it may be that the correct construction is sometimes missed in the translation, which does not purport to be other than a very liberal one. However,

we think most readers will find these articles of some interest. The light thrown on the origin of the Indian Runner duck comes most opportunely, and the report of the Paris show by M. Monsea, one of the leading Belgian fanciers, is suggestive to say the least.

In this connection we wish to express our high appreciation of the quality of the poultry matter which we find each week in *Chasse et Pêche*. We only regret that we cannot more frequently give our readers extracts from it. M. Louis vander Snickt, the editor, is a veteran fancier of wide observation, who has a vast fund of information regarding poultry at his command, and whose comments on conditions and affairs are always well worth considering.

The *National Fanciers' Journal* has given one page of its space to each of a number of specialty clubs, the page to be edited monthly by the secretary of the club. As there are a good many specialty clubs, it looks like the *Journal* would have to expand rapidly to keep up with demands for space.

The plagiarists are still at it. Some months ago Mr. Babcock had an article in the *Country Gentleman*, "A Danger Threatening Wyandottes." We reprinted two paragraphs of it, adding a brief paragraph of comment, and, of course, properly crediting it. *Fancy Fowls* for May steals our little paragraph, but in stealing it inadvertently gives proper credit for the origin of the two paragraphs which we quoted, and which by a slip of the shears are the very one it quotes itself. This piece of Mr. B.'s seems popular with the plagiarists. We meet it often. Another paper which uses it in full without credit to the *Country Gentleman* is *Turf, Farm and Home*.

We rather like *Poultry Culture's* way of "swiping" from the columns of its exchanges. It is not any better than the others, but it is distinctly different and gives a little variety to what is on the whole, a dreadfully monotonous

habit. A few months ago *Poultry Culture* took from FARM-POULTRY and used as original an article calling attention to another article published in the same issue of F.-P., but not P. C. We suggested to our contemporary the propriety of being more careful, and while in the business of appropriating, making it a point to take all that was necessary to give its pages the appearance of consistency. In reply, after an apology for the matter and disclaimer of any intentional wrong doing, the editor of *Poultry Culture* located the blame on the printer, and promised to caution that worthy not to let it occur again.

Evidently the printer of *Poultry Culture* is a person of some independence, for in the paper for July we find a part of the communication of F. W. Traviss, of F.-P., June 15, "A Plea for the Judge and the Score Card," just as much of it being used as was necessary to fill the space for which copy was required. But the printer's judgment is not good, for on the same page of F.-P. was a short clipping from another paper which would have answered his purpose just as well, being just the length of the part of the article he took, and which he could have used without even the appearance of swiping; because he could not have clipped it without leaving the credit on it.

'Tis risky business to trust the shears to the printer, or to leave it to him to make proper credit. Even when he attempts to do so he is apt to get mixed. When he doesn't try the results are sometimes startling. Unsigned contributions are credited to the editor of the paper. In this case the editor of P. C. thanks Dr. Kegley for his article in F.-P., and then goes on to tell about a certain hen which he showed at various shows, under different judges. As the hen in question did not belong to him at all, the printer's mistake places him in a rather unpleasant position.

The man who looks after a little advertising space carefully will soon find that he can afford a larger one.—White.

DEATH TO LICE REMEDIES.

GROWING CHICKENS

Will not grow like weeds when worried almost to death with vermin. If the chicks are small, look on their heads for lice. If you want to fix them nicely, quickly and well, use Lambert's Death to Lice Ointment. This mixture is also O. K. for head lice on children, or scaly shanks on fowls. 10 and 25c. postpaid.

ROOSTING ROOSTERS

Are often prey of mites and spider lice. These little blood suckers will hide under and around the roosts, droppings boards, and coop floors, crawling out upon their victims during the night, and extracting some of the best blood from the flock. Death to Lice Special dissolved in kerosene will eradicate them in good shape. Sample, enough to make one quart, (when mixed with kerosene), 10c. by mail.

LAYING HENS

Will lay more eggs when kept clean and comfortable. The lice will often secrete themselves among the fluffy feathers around the thighs and vent. You will need to look closely to defeat them. Death to Lice Powder is the standard universal remedy for lice on fowls. It cleans them as fast as you can put it on. No waiting; a minute and a handful does the business. 5 oz. package, 10c.; 15 oz. package, 25c.; 48 oz. package, 50c.; 100 oz. package, \$1 by express from here or nearest agency.

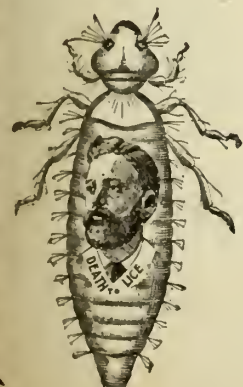
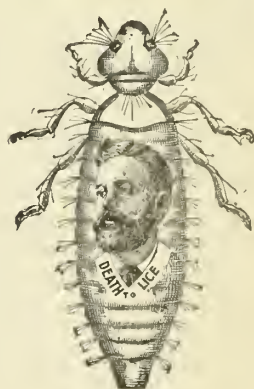
PROSPECTIVE WINNERS

Must be kept free from lice to do their prettiest. The time was when "any old thing" would do to show, but competition is sharper now, and the fortunate ones are "some pumpkins" in any kind of a show. Death to Lice Powder does not injure or soil the plumage in any way. You can put it on show birds when already cooped for exhibition, and they will look better, and perhaps win better prizes on account of it. A 5 oz. box, such as we mail for 10 cents will dust a dozen birds.

POCKET BOOK POINTERS, 1900

Will soon be exhausted. If you have not as yet received yours, send your name and address at once, and a copy will then be mailed you.

D. J. LAMBERT, Box 800, Apponaug, R. I.



ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

THE OBJECT OF THIS DEPARTMENT IS TO HELP READERS OF THE PAPER IN EMERGENCIES. It is a short order bureau of information.

Correspondents who ask for information or advice in matters requiring prompt attention, will be answered in the first issue of the paper made up after their inquiries are received. If inquiries will keep in mind that THE FORMS FOR AN ISSUE BEARING DATE OF THE 1ST DAY OF A MONTH CLOSE ON THE 20TH OF THE PRECEDING MONTH, and THE FORMS FOR AN ISSUE BEARING DATE OF THE 15TH DAY OF A MONTH CLOSE ON THE 5TH DAY OF THAT MONTH, they may know just how soon replies to questions can reach them through the paper.

IN CASES OF SPECIAL URGENCY THOSE WHO ENCLOSE STAMP FOR REPLY WILL BE ANSWERED PROMPTLY BY MAIL.

Correspondents whose questions do not come within the scope of this department as outlined above will be referred to the most recent available information in line with their inquiries.

BE SURE TO SIGN YOUR LETTER. WRITE YOUR NAME AND FULL ADDRESS VERY PLAINLY.

On a Lot 40 x 125. (A. V.)—On a lot of this size you could keep 60 to 80 hens. For such a lot I would suggest either a 40 ft. house with four pens each 10 ft. wide; or a scratching shed house with each section 20 ft. long. See plans in recent issues of this paper.

Exhibition Coop. (G. P. B.)—FARM-POULTRY, Sept. 15, 1898, contains description and illustration of a good, cheap, convenient exhibition coop. Most of the coops used are on the general plan of that one. As to which of the coops offered for sale is best I cannot say.

Silkie. (W. L.)—According to Wright, fowls of this variety are usually pure white, though black and other colors are sometimes seen. The bones are covered with a nearly black membrane, the skin is of a dark violet color. Usual weights are for cocks 3 lbs., hens 2 lbs. Are considered of little value except as ornamental fowls.

Tuberculosis, Inflammation. (H. L.)—The description of symptoms you give is too meagre, but I think it likely that the spots on the liver of the fowls which die indicate tuberculosis, while the dark fluid in the digestive tract comes from inflammation and consequent derangement of the functions of the digestive organs. A yard 10 x 12 moved frequently to new grass would do for about a dozen hens.

Length of Yards, Cedar Shingles. (R. H. M.)—For a scratching shed house in 18 ft. sections yards 18 x 100 would do, but longer yards would be better; 18 x 150 would not be too much. Where cedar shingles are cheap as with you they are to be preferred to paper. Paper is used generally because of lower cost. In actual wear, in the long run it is generally found that shingles are cheaper. But economy in first cost is often an important item, and often old buildings can be made tight and warm with paper when of such construction that they cannot be shingled.

Fresh Blood. (F. M. M.)—All the fresh blood I ever fed to chicks or fowls was given them in coagulated form. I am not sure of it, but think no harm would result from allowing them to eat all they want of it, unless they happened to be very meat hungry. Do not think you could prepare the blood yourself so that it would keep unless you have special facilities for steam cooking and drying it. The price, once a pound, seems reasonable enough for what you would use of it. If you buy more than can be used before it spoils, the price of what is used is of course increased.

Fattening Broilers. (M. C. M.)—Mr. M. has about 800 P. Rock chicks grown for broilers, which at four months old are good size, but rather poor in flesh. He feeds mash, equal parts of corn meal, bran and middlings, twice a day; cracked corn or wheat three times a day; raw potatoes and a little bone meal once a day. The chicks eat the mash fairly well, but leave the grain after eating a little. (This indicates overfeeding). They are healthy and have been except for an attack of dysentery early in July. About 200 are on range, the rest in lots of 50 in brooder house, each lot having yard 8 x 14. I suspect that the general condition of these chicks is not as good as Mr. M. states and, of course, thinks. Those in the yards are too crowded

for good growth in hot weather. He gives green food. Nothing said of grit, or of animal food, except the bone meal. If they get grit and fair allowance of animal food, and are sound and healthy the chickens which have range, at least, should be plump. Since they are not I incline to the opinion that they are considerably lacking in vitality, perhaps did not fully recover from the attack of dysentery. With so many of them, Mr. M.'s best course is to have some experienced poultry keeper in his vicinity call and examine the flock and conditions, and point out what is wrong.

Too Much Meat. (W. F. W.)—Mr. W. has lost two hens. His description of symptoms suggests liver trouble, but he says that a post mortem shows nothing wrong with the liver, and the hens not overfat. With nothing more to go on I cannot venture to say what was the trouble. The system of feeding is not at all to my liking:—Grain in the morning, green food at noon, and a mash 2 parts wheat bran, 2 parts middlings, 1 part corn meal and 1 part B. B. and B., gives too much soft food and too much meat for this warm weather. It would be better to give a light scratching feed at noon, or make half of the evening feed hard grain, or give grain and mash in the evening on alternate days, or omit the mash altogether for a while.

Beginner's Questions. (U. A. R.)—Why not write to the breeders whose names you mention for their prices on stock? I could only give you an indefinite general answer; each of them will give you his price for such stock as you want. Some will sell you birds by the score, others will not, but will tell you to return the birds if they are not as represented or not as you want. It is difficult to give an age at which chicks of any particular breed should be taught to roost. With broad flat roosts, I think, the quicker they learn, the better. Rocks should generally be roosting when three months old, though many are kept on the floor longer. A barn loft would hardly be a suitable place for brooding chicks. It would be extremely risky for one thing to have the brooder stoves or lamps in the barn.

Colonies or Yards, Crossing, Mating. (F. C. W.)—Mr. W. asks, "If one has plenty of range on farm and wants to keep largest number of laying hens with least amount of work necessary for good results, would you advise colony plan or yards? As I understand it, this is not a special poultry farm. The object is to keep as many hens as possible without seriously interfering with regular farm work. That being the case, I think the best plan would be to locate houses like, say, Mr. Lambert's house, illustrated and described in F.-P., May 15, 1900, at suitable points about the farm. On most farms where fences and walls already separate meadow fields, orchards and pastures, a little planning will so locate the different houses that the fowls will be separated when ranging, and yet no great expense for fencing on account of the chickens be incurred. Replying to other questions:—The cross of White Wyandottes and White Leghorns may be expected to give good laying pullets, but not better than either pure breed. A July hatched Buff Leghorn cockerel if well developed should give good results as a breeder with old hens next year, though not as good as a more mature bird should give.

Ducks Have Fits. (A. A. D.)—This correspondent has some ducklings which "stagger round and tip over on their backs and kick, and in a short time die." He has lost nearly half of more than 200 ducklings hatched and they are still dying fast. At first it seemed to attack only those two or three weeks old, but now he is losing some larger ones. The symptoms suggest worms. The only thing against this view of the case is that worms are not supposed to kill so quickly. Other possible causes of troubles which might show symptoms somewhat like those described are, sunstroke and lice. If the trouble is worms a good remedy is essence turpentine 1 part, olive oil 2 parts, a tablespoonful to each bird. Sunstroke might occur where the ducks had not sufficient shade. Lice sometimes kill young ducks quite rapidly. When I began keeping a few ducks the ducklings were given water, some in shallow plates, others in pans about 2 in. deep. We soon found lice on the heads of those which had the shallower drink-

600 YOUNG BIRDS 2000 PULLETS

MALES, \$2 TO \$5; FEMALES, \$1 TO \$3.
My new catalogue will interest you.



ELM POULTRY YARDS, Hartford, Ct.

Breeding S. C. White Leghorns; S. C. Black Minorcas; Barred Rocks; White Rocks; White Wyandottes; Light Brahmas.
State Agent for the Star Incubator & Brooder Co.

BREEDERS AND MARKETMEN.

OUR REQUESTS:—We make two requests of our subscribers. One is when writing our Advertising patrons always mention FARM-POULTRY. Another is if you ask them questions, always inclose a stamp. If you observe both of these requests it will benefit you amazingly. It shows that you mean business. Remember, "Molasses will catch more flies than vinegar," and those who observe it are served first.

HOUDANS.—5 cock's 18, 10 pullets for sale; eggs from winners at Boston and largest shows in New Eng., \$2. A. W. Tyler, 79 Andover St., Peabody, Mass.

KNIGHT will sell eggs 15 for \$1 for balance of season from his Boston winners of R. C. B. Leghorns. Also 50 one year old breeders for sale. Geo. A. Knight, Peabody, Mass.

ROSE C. B. Leg's specialty. Eggs from winners \$1.50 per 15; from free range flocks, \$2 per 50. J. L. Randolph, Cutler, O.

ROSE C. B. Leghorns, specialty 14 years. Stock for sale. J. L. Randolph, Cutler, Ohio.

SILVER WYANDOTTES. Annual sale of breeders after June 1st. Trios, \$5; pens \$10 and upwards; eggs at half price now. Conkey's Roup Cure 50c. per tube postpaid. Guaranteed. John C. Jodrey, Box 146, Danvers, Mass.

S. C. WHITE Leghorns and White Wyandottes. My time is devoted to the breeding of these popular breeds, which I grow on free range. Send for prices. Wm. H. Cyphers, Crystal Farm, Washington, N. J.

STOCK FOR SALE. Specially low prices B. Minorca and Buff Leghorn hens, also grand R. and S. C. Brown Leghorns, Rocks, and Wh. Wy. eggs \$1. W. W. Kulp, Box 40, Pottstown, Pa.

WHITE Wyandottes exclusively. 100 choice yearling hens for sale. F. W. Howes, Woodstock, Vt.

BUYERS' DIRECTORY.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS only will be printed under this heading; no advertisement admitted containing less than TWO lines; no display other than the initial word or name allowed; no limit to length of ad.; an advertiser can divide his copy and put the matter under as many headings as he wishes; all space used except classified headline, to be charged at a uniform price of 25 cents per line each and every insertion; no less price per line for any number of lines or times inserted; copy will be changed often as desired; about seven ordinary words will make a line; all parts of lines charged as one full line; the headlines will be arranged alphabetically, as in a "business directory."

BELGIAN HARES.

BRISTOL Rabbits has B. hares for sale from hup. stock. M. Van Allen, Bristol, Conn.

BRITAIN RAY, 954 by "Lord Britain" fee \$10. Rabbits 40 Wales St., Dorchester. Finest stock. Book 25c. Circular.

HUNDRED Belgian Hares, including winner first New York. Will also exchange for all kinds of poultry. John Neider, Box 346, Englewood, N. J.

BREEDING STOCK.

FOR SALE, 300 Br. and Wh. Rocks, 200 Wh. and S. Wyandottes, grand breeders, 26 eggs \$1.25. Address, Oakland Farm, Kelsey, Ohio.

PRESSURE of other business compels me to sacrifice my breeding pens of Barred Rocks, S. C. Br. Leghorns, young stock, incubators, brooders, etc., etc. Must be sold within 60 days.

G. L. Myers, Tyrone, Pa.
MACK'S DARK EGG strain White Wyandottes, choice pullets and cockerels from heavy layers and standard bred stock. Write for prices. Arthur G. Symonds, W. Hopkinton, N. H.

1200 CHOICE poultry and pigeons, German Hares. Des. Col. 60 page book, 10c. J. A. Bergoy, Telford, Pa.

EGGS.

W. AND B. Rocks, S. C. W. Legs, Pekin ducks, \$1.50 per set. E. Marquand, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

INCUBATORS AND BROODERS.

THE PERFECTED INCUBATOR, cash. Installments, or rented. The Perfected Regular fits any incubator; 4c. in stamps for circular. H. D. Moulton, Taunton, Mass.

360-EGG Cyphers incubator, new this season! In perfect condition, for \$25; also 360-egg size Cyphers incubator, new last season, for \$22.50. A. C. Lewis, West Kingston, R. I.

LEGHORNS.

FOR SALE, 300 S. C. Br. and Wh. Leghorn hens, fine breeders, 26 eggs \$1. Address, Oakland Farm, Kelsey, Ohio.

400 S. C. W. LEGHORN yearlings for sale. Plainfield Poultry Farm, and Wyckoff str. Will sell reasonable to make room for growing stock. F. A. Gay, Jr., Nyack, N. Y.

LEGHORNS wanted in ex. for Cyphers and P. State Incu.; 200 egg. W. Lewin, Royersford, Pa.

**BRED TO WIN
FROM WINNERS.**

**BRED TO LAY
FROM LAYERS.**

MINORCAS.

800 ROSE and Single Comb Minorcas for exhibition and utility, cheap. Large catalogue. Geo. H. Northrup, Box 179, Keeseville, N. Y.

MINORCAS exclusively; eggs \$2 per sitting. R. Story, 187 Arlington Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

PLYMOUTH ROCKS.

BARRED Plymouth Rocks. Eggs, prize winning variety stock, that will suit you, \$1.50 for 15. The Rock Poultry Farm, P. O. Box 6, Wollaston, Mass.

SELLING out. White Rocks, bargains in our line; breeders; somebody gets first pick at this year's chicks. Howland & Whitney, Cambridgeport, Mass.

POULTRY FARMS.

SMALL POULTRY FARM, with many choice fruits in bearing. Well located, handy to best markets in N. E.; electric lights will pass door. For price and full particulars address, Box 10, Farm-Poultry office, Boston, Mass.

IN ORANGE, Mass. A poultry and vegetable farm of 10 acres close to a good thriving village. Terms reasonable. Come and see it. B. A. Stewart, Prop.

POULTRY PRINTING.

100 7 LB. Packet heads, 100 of envelopes, \$1. Fine quality any printing desired. Postpaid, 500 gummed labels, 25c. Samples free. Commercial Printing House, Orwell, Pa.

POULTRY SUPPLIES.

POULTRY supplies, all kinds, home cutters, brooders. Chas. C. E. White, Sta. V., Philadelphia, Pa.

RHODE ISLAND REDS.

RHODE Island Red Eggs. Prize winning stock of the highest quality, both rose and single comb. \$1.50 to \$6 per 15. House Rock Poultry Farm, P. O. Box 6, Wollaston, Mass.

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MAN with family desires position as manager or sup't of poultry farm, or gentleman's place, ten years practical experience; also understand fruit culture and general farming. For further particulars, reference, etc., address, Box Q, care of F.-P.

WORKING poultryman wanted to manage a poultry plant for half profits. Ample buildings, land and equipment. Good money. Would sell or rent. H. Academy St., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

WANTED, position on poultry farm by a son-in-law; three years experience, first class reference. Address August Larson, care of A. J. Hallock, Atlantic City, Spoken, L. I. N. Y.

WANTED, position as assistant on large poultry plant, or can manage a small plant. Number of years experience with poultry, incubators and brooders. Good reference. Philip S. Fernickes, Valparaiso, Ind.

PRACTICAL Poultryman, Single American, years, wants position. Good references. F. P. Olin, 28 Upton St., Boston, Mass.

WYANDOTTES.

WHITE Wyandottes, dark brown eggs, from standard birds, pure white and stay white. Eggs \$1 per 15; incubator eggs, \$4 per 100. P. D. White, North Attleboro, Mass.

COCKS AND HENS, cock's and pullets, early farm raised, well marked; heavy laying Wyandottes, Silver, Golden, Buff, and White. Choice breeders \$1 to \$3. J. Y. Patton, Box 128, New Castle, Pa.

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WHITE'S White Wyand. 50 yearling hens, 1st egg. C. E. White, Box 333, Fox Chase, Phila., Pa.

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Belgian Hare Guide AND DIRECTORY OF BREEDERS. Illustrated, practical, and covers every phase of the subject. Price 25 cents. Inland Poultry Journal Co., Indianapolis, Ind.

ing vessels. After that the ducklings always had their drinking water in pans deep enough to let them get the head and a good part of the neck under water, and there was no more trouble with head lice on ducklings.

Basement Poultry House. (L. M. R.)—Miss R. wishes to fix up the basement under a wood house 20 x 24 for winter quarters for her flock of hens, which during the summer are kept at some distance from the house. Her principal object in moving them in winter is to have them where she will not have to wade through snow to get at them. The stone foundation of the wood house is highest above ground at the southwest corner. As I understand the sketch sent with her letter, all the west wall and the greater part of the south wall is above ground, while only the upper part of the south half of the east wall is above the surface. Her idea is to take out the stone wall on the south, and put in double board wall with windows. I think a better plan would be to cut one large window in the south wall and half windows in the east and west walls. This would give abundance of sunlight and would make it easy to keep the place dry and sweet. What would be the use of tearing out the entire south wall?

Poison Ivy.—Moldy Bread. (G. & S.)—Messrs. G. & S. want to know "Could poison ivy harm small chicks if it grows in the field where they are?" Say they—"A number of our chickens three months old, seemingly hardy, were found dead after we had given them liberty to run into a large field; and this made us think that probably there was poison ivy in the field which they had eaten. Or, could there be any other cause? Is there any harm in feeding them with bread that has become moldy?" The moldy bread, if that has been fed, may be responsible for the loss of the chicks. Slightly moldy bread does no appreciable harm when fed *only occasionally*, but if fed regularly it generally shows some bad effects. Very moldy, decidedly moldy bread is not fit for food either for chickens or anything else. If such bread were fed it might kill the chicks suddenly. It is also possible that the chicks when turned into the new field may have found and eaten of the carcass of something which had died of poison. A case was reported in FARM-POULTRY, in 1896, where some fowls having died suddenly and without known cause, it was afterwards discovered that they had eaten a part of the body of a poisoned rat.

Broilers—Brooder Houses. (H. J. D.)—About Dec. 1st is the time to begin hatching broilers. For 2000 chicks you would want at least 200 ft. of house 12 or more feet wide, divided into pens about 5 ft. wide. It is difficult to give you more than a very rough estimate of the amount of capital needed to erect a plant of the capacity mentioned and put it on a paying basis. In fact the amount would vary widely for different persons and different circumstances. Some large plants not precisely of this kind have been built up by brains, push, economy and hard work from a very small initial investment. Other large plants have failed though there was abundance of capital back of them. I don't feel that it would be worth either my while or yours to go into the details of possible amount of capital needed on the supposition that there is no mismanagement and things run smoothly, for the simple reason that an exclusive broiler plant as an exclusive business always has been a failure. Broiler growing is work for a season, and should be taken up in connection with other branches of poultry keeping, with fruit growing, gardening, or some such employment. In any case you ought to get a practical working knowledge of the methods, expenses, etc., of broiler production before undertaking it for yourself on a scale of any magnitude.

Jaundice. (A. C. L.)—Some weeks ago this correspondent had a hen sicken and die. The post mortem examination showed "a yellow, jelly-like substance among the intestines—nothing else of an abnormal character observed." The hen was sick (or noticed as sick) for about ten days before death, the noticeable symptoms being falling appetite, pallor of comb, and general weakness. Now another hen shows the same symptoms. The

trouble is jaundice, or biliary repletion, which according to Megnin is due to moderate and persistent congestion of the liver induced by over-fat or by improper feeding. In this condition an excess of bile is produced, penetrates and colors the organs adjoining the liver and causes jaundice and poisoning. The presence of the disease is detected earliest in the face and head parts, to which it gives a yellowish color. For treatment at this stage the authority quoted recommends purging with aloes, one-half to one grain at a dose, and complete change of diet.

MARKET REVIEW.

BOSTON.

Eggs.—Nearby and Cape, fancy 21c.; eastern choice fresh 17c., fair to good 12@14c.; Vt. and N. H. choice fresh 17c.; Mich. fancy fresh 14c.; western selected fresh 13@13½c., fair to good 11@13½c., com. to fair 8@10c., dirties \$2.10@2.60 per 30 doz. case.

Dressed Poultry.—*Fresh Killed Northern and Eastern:*—Fowls, extra choice 12c., com. to good 10@11c.; chickens, choice large spring 16c., fair to good 12@15c.; ducks, spring 10@12½c. *Western Iced*—Turkeys, choice hens 9c., toms 8c.; fowls, choice 11c., com. to good 10@10½c.; broilers, choice, 2 lbs. each 13c., com. to good 11@12c.; old cocks 6½c.; ducks 5@8c. *Western Frozen*—Turkeys, choice 11@11½c., com. to good 9@10c.; chickens, choice 11c., com. to good 8@10c.; fowls, good to choice 9½@10c.; ducks 10@12c.; geese 10c.

Live Poultry.—Fowls 10@10½c.; chickens, spring 11@12c.; roosters 5½@6c.

NEW YORK.

Eggs.—Very fancy fresh selected white 18@20c., very fancy, fresh 17c.; Penna. and state 16@17c.; best western 14@15c., fair to good 12½@13½c., ordinary 10½@11½c., dirties 8@9c.; checks 4@7c.

Dressed Poultry.—Dry picked fowls 10½@11c.; western spring chickens, dry picked 12@13c., small scalded 10@11c.; nearby springs, large 18@20c., small and medium 14@17c.; eastern and L. I. spring ducks 11c., western 5@7c.; eastern spring geese, white 13@14c., dark 10@11c.

Live Poultry.—Nearby and nearby western springs, large 14c., far western and small 13c., southern 12@13c.; fowls 11c., old roosters 6½c.; turkeys 7@8c.; ducks, western 50@60c. per pair, southern and southwestern 35@45c.; geese, western 75c.@\$1 per pair, southern and southwestern 70@80c.

PHILADELPHIA.

Eggs.—Penna. and nearby fresh 15c.; western fresh 15c.; southwestern fresh 13c.; southern fresh 11c.

Dressed Poultry.—*Fresh Killed*—Fowls, western choice 11c., fair to good 10½c.; old roosters 6½c.; chickens, nearby, as to size 12@15c.; western, large dry picked 12@13c., small and medium 9@11c.

Live Poultry.—Fowls 11c.; old roosters 7@7½c.; spring chickens as to size 11@14c.; spring ducks 10@10½c.

CHICAGO.

Eggs.—Firsts in fresh cases, included, 12½c.; loss off, cases returned 11½c.; city candled, new cases in 12@12½c.; at mark, cases returned 7½@10c., cases included 7½@10½c.; dirties, cases in 5@7c.

Live Poultry.—Turkeys 6@7c.; fowls 8½c.; roosters 5c.; springs 10@10½c.; ducks 7½c.; spring 9@9½c.; geese, spring, per doz. \$3@3.6.

Dressed Poultry.—*Iced*—Turkeys 7@8c.; hens 8½@9c.; ducks 7@8c., springs 10@11c.

ST. LOUIS.

Eggs.—Nearby fresh, loss off 9½c., lower grades 6½@7½c.

Live Poultry.—Hens 7½c.; old roosters 3½c.; spring chickens 8½c.; turkeys 6@7c., young turkeys 16c.; ducks 5c., spring ducks 5½@6½c.; geese 3c., spring geese 5@6½c.

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Indian Game Club Notice.

The object of the club is to encourage the breeding and improvement of the Indian, and the aim is to create an ideal that will suit the majority of breeders. With a slight amendment to the club constitution and by-laws members could vote by mail and everyone would have a direct influence and the club would be of mutual benefit to all. Fanciers from all sections are joining, and those not fully decided are requested to write to the secretary. The initiation fee is only \$1, and members have no other expenses except 50c. each year, the annual dues, which is a very small amount for the privilege of competing for valuable cups and specials. Address the secretary-treasurer, W. S. TEMPLETON, Dakota, Ill.

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FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A.D. 1886.

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2 cocks and 15 hens, Barred Rocks, Bradley and Wells strain.
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1 cock, 2 hens, Golden Duckwing Games, 1 cock, 4 hens, Red Pyle Games, 2 cocks, 4 hens, Br. Red Game Bantams, 2 B. B. Red Bant. cocks, and 1 Red Pyle, 3 White Cochins Bant. cocks, 2 drakes, 4 ducks, Black Muscovy, 1 drake, 3 ducks, Pekin.
We have a number of very fine Cockerels bred from these birds for sale, but no pullets at present. A full description can be had of these birds for the asking of it.
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INSTRUCTIVE EXPERIENCES.

"Learning," said an old philosopher, "teacheth more in one year than experience in twenty; and learning teacheth safely when experience teacheth more miserable than wise. He hazardeth sore that waxes wise by experience. It is costly wisdom that is bought by experience. We know by experience that it is a marvelous pain to find out, but a short way by long wandering."

Which is true as far as it goes; but he ought to have added that experience is the first of all teachers, and that experience teaches well and thoroughly, succeeding where all other tutors have failed.

More About Cracked Corn and Gapes.

Mr. Editor:—I note in your issue of June 15th mention made of feeding cracked corn to avoid gapes. Now, perhaps that is the reason I never was troubled with gapes. I have raised more or less chicks for the last twenty-five years, and always fed cracked corn to them in four or five days from the hatch, at least once a day. I always thought they could pick up the smaller grains and start the grinders in motion. I never had a case of gapes to my knowledge. If cracked corn is the cause, I am glad to know it. I surely know of nothing else, but never thought much about it before.

W. E. BLOSSOM.

Fall River, Mass.

A Story of Hard Luck.

I wonder if anyone has had quite such bad luck as I? First with my cock birds. My beauty of the previous breeding season was hurt by a boy and had to be killed. Then some cockerels I had yarded for sale got out. One got in a fight with an outsider. One had to be killed. The other was not fit to sell. After yarding for the breeding season I accidentally left a door open; two got together and into a fight; one lost his bill, the other had his mouth so hurt that he was of no use in the yard. Fortunately I was able to replace him. After the breeding season was over all had free range, going to their own coop to roost; but one night one went in with another, which cost him his life. Finally my very best one of 1899 raising had a gathering on his foot and I had to kill him.

From a 120-egg incubator the largest number of chicks was forty-six; eggs ninety-five percent fertile, and nearly all that failed to hatch died about the nineteenth day. Some under hens hatched nearly every fertile egg, but on account of hens breaking eggs and mashing chicks the per cent of chicks was not much better than from the incubator. One thing I have to be thankful for is the exceptional vigor and quick growth of the chicks. The only mortality worth noting was among a lot that was crowded in with some a little older. This had to be done to save a lot of turkeys. I had some turkeys hatched under hens at the same time a turkey hen hatched, and as the hens were fine mothers I put the chicks with them. A few days after the turkey hen was taken so sick she could not carry the turkeys, so I had to put them with the barnyard hens that knew them, and dispose of the chicks as stated. The chicks I lost most of. The hens persisted in going where the hawks caught many of the turkeys, and now they do not go to the fields as they should, thus increasing cost of feed.

My great losses with chicks and turkeys have been from hawks and crows; my last count of chicks showing that I had lost seventy-five. I do not know how many turkeys I have had taken as I have not kept a strict account, but, quite a number, and am still losing them. This season I have had not over half a dozen chicks with gapes, and very few cases among the turkeys. I never lose any from this cause if I take them in time, but am always glad to be saved the trouble of operating. I so often see reference to silver wire with horse hair looped in end, that I enclose my instrument which I don't think can be beat. Not all horsehair will make them; it requires coarse, wiry hair from the tail.

I hope my previous good luck may return to me. Usually in any disaster I have had myself to blame, but as I cannot shoot, and can't for love or money get anyone to keep with the flocks for a day or two to kill the hawks, there is no help for me. This is an

ideal place for poultry naturally, and for hawks and crows,—the same conditions favorable to both, abundance of trees and bushes, running water near at hand to entice the poultry to the spots most readily accessible to the varmints.

Miss H. W. ROBERTSON.

Miss R.'s gape extraetor is made by taking three or four pieces of horsehair about fifteen or sixteen inches long, doubling and twisting each so as to make a piece seven or eight inches long with a loop in one end; then twisting or plaiting all together, putting a knot in the end where all the ends of the hairs are together and leaving at the other end a bunch of three or four tiny loops.

Debilitated Stock — Brooders.

Mr. Editor:—Having had rather a checkered experience with chicks this spring, would like to ask your opinion as to the cause. My first lot was fairly satisfactory. Early in March I sent to B—, and got 250 eggs from which I hatched 110 chickens, losing only about 20 from sickness. They came out good and strong and have done well. My next hatch from 264 eggs, 133 chicks; 11 now living. Next hatch 264 eggs, 145 chicks; 20 now living. Next 264 eggs, 150 chicks; about 20 now living, some of which will die.

All had the same treatment, brooded the same way except that the brooders were put out of doors sooner in the case of the last three lots. My feed for the first few days is dry rolled oats, johnny cake made of a mixture of corn meal, middlings, a little clover meal, and one infertile egg from incubator. Fresh clean water always before them, also plenty of good gritty fine sand, granulated charcoal and oyster shells.

Is not a suitable brooder house with outdoor runs and good sized inside runs much better than any out of door brooders of any pattern yet made for the first three or four weeks?

Now to the chicken questions. The last three lots of eggs were from a party near here who gets large quantities of eggs from all his pens all winter, and this year his breeding fowls are very closely confined. Now he is having fair success, he says, this year from the same fowls. So he states, but I noticed several times when at his place that there were very few coops of small chickens that did not contain from one to three or four dead ones.

What is the trouble,—debilitated stock, wrong treatment, unfavorable season, or what? We feel satisfied with the first lot considering earliness of season and long distance eggs were shipped. Our experience this year will result in Mr. B— getting an order for, probably, 2,000 eggs next season; and the other man nit—from me.

What was the matter with the chicks? Was the stock out of condition? Was the feeding wrong? Were they put out of doors too soon? Would a good brooder house be better than out of door brooders,—especially in a spring like last?

J. BARKER.

Nashua, N. H.

It would hardly seem necessary to seek further for a cause for this excessive mortality when the history of the parent stock is as in this case, and when we have the little glimpses Mr. Barker affords us into the actual condition of the chicks produced at home by the party from whom he bought the eggs. The feeding is not responsible for the losses, nor is it probable that the out door brooders are to any great extent. Had the losses been greater in the lots hatched (from the nearby eggs) earliest in the season, we might suspect that putting the brooders out too soon caused some losses; but as they are just as heavy late in the season when the chicks required little artificial heat, it is not reasonable to attribute losses to putting the brooders out too early. The question as to the relative merits of different systems of brooding is one which can hardly be given a brief unqualified answer. For winter work the house is generally preferred, but for the season during which Mr. Barker's losses were heaviest, out door brooders are used by many with the very best of results. For that matter, numerous poultrymen have used out door brooders in severe winter weather with good results.

Most persons experienced in their use would, we think, advise placing the out door brooder under shelter that would afford it some protection in stormy weather. This is advisable, though perhaps the shelter is not needed to maintain the temperature, because the storms cannot then interfere with the work of earling for the chicks. To illustrate, a poultryman had a lot of out door brooders snowed under early in April. They had to be dug out before the chicks could be fed. The brooders kept the chicks comfortable, and they were none the worse for this experience. But suppose it had been repeated day after day for a week. The chicks would soon show the effects of close confinement and irregular meals, and the poultrymen would feel the effects of extra work.

Why Not Rose Comb Rocks?

Mr. Editor:—The mention of Rose Comb Plymouth Rocks, F.-P., Jan. 1, 1900, is of interest to me, as I have for six years been breeding Rose Comb Barred Plymouth Rocks, and my Rocks have quite a local reputation. I have bred to Standard requirements for single comb except that I breed with rose comb, and I claim that a great advantage in a cold climate. My R. C. B. P. R.'s are not of Wyandotte origin, are splendid layers of large eggs. I sent a sample dozen to a Pittsburgh commission merchant, and he replied that if I could furnish such eggs in quantity he would have no difficulty in disposing of them at 7 cts. per doz. advance over the usual prices.

Enthusied by this letter and by reading F.-P., I enlarged my plant, got everything in tip-top running order, had a fine lot of early hatched pullets, bought some of neighbors who kept my strain of Rocks. But, alas! my hopes were all frustrated by a flock

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PRICE, \$1.50 PER HUNDRED LBS.

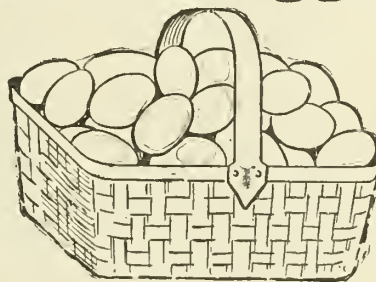
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Price 2½ cts. per lb.; lots of 100 lbs., \$2. Grain and Poultry Supplies of all kinds. Samples free.

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At this time of year the demand is large. Get your pullets to laying by October. A well-filled egg basket daily, is what makes poultry pay. You can obtain these much desired results by good care, proper foods, and the use of

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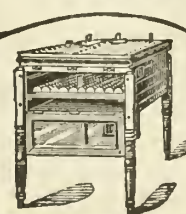
It costs only one-tenth cent a day per hen. No matter what kind of foods you use, it causes perfect assimilation of the food elements needed to form eggs. It will help old hens to molt quickly. Its use adds very largely to your profits.

We will send to any address, free by mail, a circular giving the method of feeding for eggs as practiced by many poultry fall and winter than in summer.

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any kind of poultry can be hatched with more certain results, with less trouble, and at less expense, with the Prairie State Incubator, than by any other means. No other incubator is so completely automatic in its regulation or so economical in its operation as the

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of turkeys that came across country from where they had disease. In spite of clubs, boys, and dogs, those turkeys persisted in going to roost in the trees about the premises, and in three days every fowl in sight was sick. It was not a fatal disease;—a weakening diarrhoea. I immediately commenced to paint everything red, in other words I fed plentifully of venetian red both in food and drink. With great care (How hard I worked for one whole week!) and using disinfectants thoroughly, I only lost two grown fowls and thirty late hatched chicks. But my fine pullets had no lay in them and did not recuperate until January; and I am (as you may suppose) taught by this experience to regard poultry returns as a little uncertain. Don't you think if there is a place in the Standard for Rose Comb Leghorns and Minorcas, there should be for Rose Comb P. Rocks? Please give me a short description of the American Dominique. If they are worthy a place in the Standard, how comes it that we never see them advertised? Query:—If a fowl had all the requirements of a Standard Plymouth Rock and had a fine rose comb instead of a single comb, why shouldn't it be called a Rose Comb Plymouth Rock? E. H. BLANEY.
Elvilla, Pa.

The American Dominique of the present Standard hardly differs from the Barred Plymouth Rock except in comb and weight. Most of the few Dominiques I have seen exhibited of late years were more of the Wyandotte than of the Rock type. The weights are the same as for Wyandottes. The old Dominiques, as I remember them, were more of the Hamburg type though larger and coarser, and I had a few birds of this type hatched in 1891 from eggs bought of a breeder who was one of the last to advertise them prominently. Occasionally you see them advertised still, but there is very little demand for them. I don't think a demand for them as Rose Comb Rocks or Barred Wyandottes could be worked up, and the difference in description between R. C. Barred Rocks and Dominiques is so slight that you would find it difficult to show to an association of breeders comprising those interested in many different varieties that your Barred Rocks were different from Dominiques. The fact that they were bred from Rocks would count for nothing. I don't profess to be able to explain why certain breeds are recognized by the Standard while others with as good reasons for being, are not. No general explanation would cover all cases. Some have been brought in because someone prominent in American Poultry Association counsels chose the "psychological moment" when there was no opposition present, to present their claims and push them through. Some remain in the Standard because the association's committees have neglected to recommend putting them out. The action of the association is never consistent enough to suggest to an outsider that it has any well defined policy, and on the rare occasions when it gives a reason for rejecting, admitting, or ejecting a breed, it invariably fails to take the step which the logic of its position demands, and apply its reason in a general readjustment of Standard and non-Standard varieties.

That K-a-r-r-r.

In regard to the hen which when swallowing stretched out her neck and emitted a prolonged k-a-r-r-r, Mr. A. D. writes: "For two weeks she had been doing that with increasing frequency, and on June 9th I resolved to fat and kill her. Accordingly I took her from the flock and putting her into a coop proceeded to feed her on corn meal gruel as I have read in the methods of fattening fowls. She ate the gruel and didn't k-a-r-r-r, or rather made the noise with decreasing frequency, and laid several eggs. The result was that on the 23d, not having heard the noise for several days, I put her back with the flock. Her temporary retirement had certainly improved her appearance. She looked the best of all the flock. During the next eight days—the remainder of the month—she laid five eggs and has seldom made the noise."

It would appear from this that there was some trouble in the throat that was aggravated by swallowing grain or a tolerably dry and

hard mash, and relieved when the soft gruel diet was given. I hope Mr. D. will keep us informed of the condition of the hen. If the trouble returns perhaps it may be completely cured by a return for a longer period to the gruel diet. I would repeat here the request to those who get advice from FARM-POULTRY to report results, whether obtained by following advice in these columns, advice from elsewhere, or their own ideas. We want bad results as well as good reported. It might not always be in order to publish them, but often the advice given is necessarily based, as in some cases of medical treatment, on instructions which I have never had occasion to use myself, which are given because they come from what is considered the most competent authority, but which are not regarded as infallible. If readers would report results oftener we would all have more confidence in the good and useful remedies, and would sooner learn to let those which are not good alone. There is no question in my mind that many cases of mild sickness supposed to be cured by a certain article given as a remedy were in no way affected by it. The fowls would have recovered without it. The remedy may do no harm in such cases, but the harm is done when the supposed remedy is relied on in a case where none but a real remedy will be effective.

Hatching Eggs with Bees.

John Norton of this city has for several years been interested in bees and has given them and their habits much study. It was this study that led Mr. Norton to devise one of the most interesting and at the same time most practical schemes of modern poultry culture. It is nothing more or less than the hatching of thrifty and strong chickens in hives with the bees.

In watching the daily life of the busy insects Mr. Norton noted that they laid and hatched eggs. It at once occurred to him that if the bees' eggs would hatch that the eggs of hens might also be quickened into life under the same conditions. He began experimenting and with the final result of a practical, perfect and cheap incubator.

It is made as follows: A common hive is built with double walls, the dead space being filled with chaff in order that changes of temperature without may affect as little as possible the temperature within. Upon this hive is placed the common box cap that usually forms the second story of a hive, and which contains the honey of commerce. The main hive is filled with small boxes so familiar to all, and these contain the brood comb and a supply of honey. Over these boxes is placed first a piece of oil cloth and second a cloth blanket. Upon this blanket the eggs are placed, and above them two bags of chaff, filling the top, and so arranged that there is a slight cone of vacant space beneath the bags in the center of the hive.

The eggs having been placed in the hive, are left to the care of the bees. The heat from the bees below and from the brood comb keeps the eggs warm, and they hatch in exactly the same time as beneath a hen. No matter what the temperature without, that within never varies half a degree. If it grows cold the bees begin to devour the honey and give off heat. If it becomes warm without the bees create a draft with their wings, and maintain an even temperature.

From fifty eggs placed in the hive Mr. Norton has hatched fifty strong chicks, a record seldom equaled by hen or incubator. The eggs require no moistening as in an incubator. They need only to be placed there and allowed to remain till the period of incubation is passed. The chicks as they hatch, crawl into the little conelike space between and under the bags of chaff, and are found hungry and happy when the hive is opened. Mr. Norton is to be congratulated on the close study and the ready wit that has made possible this excellent incubating method.—*Macomb, Ill., Times.*

When we first read this account we were rather sceptical to say the least, and wrote our representative at Macomb, Ill., Mr. R. I. Empey, to learn the truth of the matter. Mr. Empey advises us that Mr. Norton not only made one very successful hatch in the manner described, but in fact four such hatches. We would be pleased to hear of others who may experiment along the same line.—*Poultry Tribune.*

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simply cannot be profitable. Her time should be devoted to regular hen business instead of fighting vermin. Why have vermin anyhow? Why not rid your poultry house of such pests and keep free from them for all time? It is most easily done by painting walls, floors, roosts, nest boxes, dropping boards, etc., with

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They have visiting them at the Nelsons' a Mrs. Duckworth from Kentucky, who used to be a great sufferer from constipation. She says she used to suffer greatly with headache too, due, no doubt, to indigestion and constipation, and tried every kind of remedy, but could find no relief until she began using Ripans Tablets. The very first Tablet gave relief, "and now," she says, "headache is a stranger." The indigestion and constipation disappeared, and she never felt better in her life than she does now. She considers Ripans Tablets the best medicine in the world.

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